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MADE IN ABYSS 06
Presented by Akihito Tsukushi

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MADE IN ABYSS
6
story & art
AKIHITO TSUKUSHI

MADE IN ABYSS 06

Presented by Akihito Tsukushi

I WONDER IF ANYONE HAS TRIED TO DESCEND USING A PARACHUTE.
How Are You? Somewhere 01
Reg
YOU REALLY CAN'T SEE THE BOTTOM, HUH?
OH? NOW THIS IS AMAZING.
MUNCH
GUESS THAT MEANS THEY RISK THEIR LIVES HOWEVER THEY GO ABOUT IT.
Last year's attempt using an airship ended in failure. That now makes 120 lives that have been swallowed up by the Abyss. Challenging the depths' second layer and beyond by air has been hindered by a region of perpetual storms and...
SO MANY HAVE ATTEMPTED IT, THEN.
I SEE.
WHOOPS.
I SHOULDN'T SNACK ON THESE.
I SUPPOSE I BETTER HAVE A PROPER MEAL.
REG!
REG!
HAS PUT OUT A DISPLAY FOR TOURISTS OF THINGS TAKEN FROM INSIDE THE PIT.
I WONDER IF ANYONE...

OKAY?

LOOK! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PLACE YOUR PAW HERE.

READY, REG?!

MAKING REG SMARTER!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHAT A HUGE DOG...

.....

OKAY, OKAY! GOOD BOY, REG!

PAW!

GLOMP

ギャ EEE!

MUST BE REALLY SMART.
THE DOG'S NOT EVEN BEGGING FOR CRUMBS.
MRNCH もく
MRNCH もく
AH.
THIS, HUH?
THAT'S LEADER!
WE GOTTA GO OR HE'LL KILL ME!
RIKO! HOW LONG YOU GOING TO BE OUT ON YOUR WALK?!
REG, YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY, OKAY? MIGHT BE POISON-OUS FOR YOU.
IT'S KINDA DRY.
PROTECT HER WELL, REG.
TIME TO LOOK FOR A SHOP.
THEY SAY MOST OF THEM DIE DOWN IN THE ABYSS...
I SUPPOSE WHATEVER THEY DO PUTS THEM IN MORTAL DANGER.
GOOD-BYE, LADY!
CHING
SHWP しゅっ
THAT BELL...
IT'S THE ONE ORPHANS WHO WANT TO BE CAVE RAIDERS WEAR, ISN'T IT?

I'VE TRAVELED ALL AROUND THE WORLD, BUT YOU SURE ARE SOME-THING ELSE.
BUT YOU LOOK DEEPER THAN YOU DID SEVEN YEARS AGO.
THEY SAY MEMORIES GROW MORE BEAUTIFUL WITH TIME...
THE COLD WIND THAT BLOWS UP FROM THE PIT...
THE SCENT OF THESE WHITE FLOW-ERS...
REG!
HERE, LOOK AT THIS!
IT'S SPICY!
HAVE SOME OF THIS, TOO.
Meat of unknown origin grilled with spices.
Rice soaked in meat juices.
Food that was shared with her--before she even knew it--as she was looking around the shop.
I WON-DER IF THE PRO-PRIE-TRESS OF THAT ONE SHOP IS DOING WELL?
I MEAN, THIS MIGHT BE OUR ONLY CHANCE, RIGHT?!
WHICH MEANS WE'LL MISS OUT IF WE DON'T EAT THIS!
KRNKL...
YOU KNOW, WE'RE TAUGHT NOT TO EAT ANY OF THE FOOD THAT FOREIGN-ERS BRING IN WITH THEM.

SHE ATE IT...

BUT IT'S EVEN *MORE* IMPORTANT TO CREATE NEW MEMORIES.

RECALLING THINGS IS IMPORTANT...

LISTEN HERE, REG.

COME TO THINK OF IT, I SEEM TO RECALL THAT SOMETIME OR OTHER YOU HAD DIARRHEA FOR NO APPARENT REASON.

IRREDEEMABLE...!

BUT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW LONG IT'S BEEN SITTING THERE!

WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT AUNTIE'S STEAMED BUNS ARE YUMMIER, BUT YOU KNOW...

I PREFER LAFFI'S MUSTARD STEAMED BUNS TO STUFF OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN.

WHA—?

RIKO, LET'S HURRY UP AND DELIVER THESE LETTERS TO THE SPICE SHOP.

BUT SHE LIVES WITH A CERTAIN DETERMINATION, DOESN'T SHE?

STILL NOT VERY BRIGHT...

CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS, SOMEONE LIKE HER...

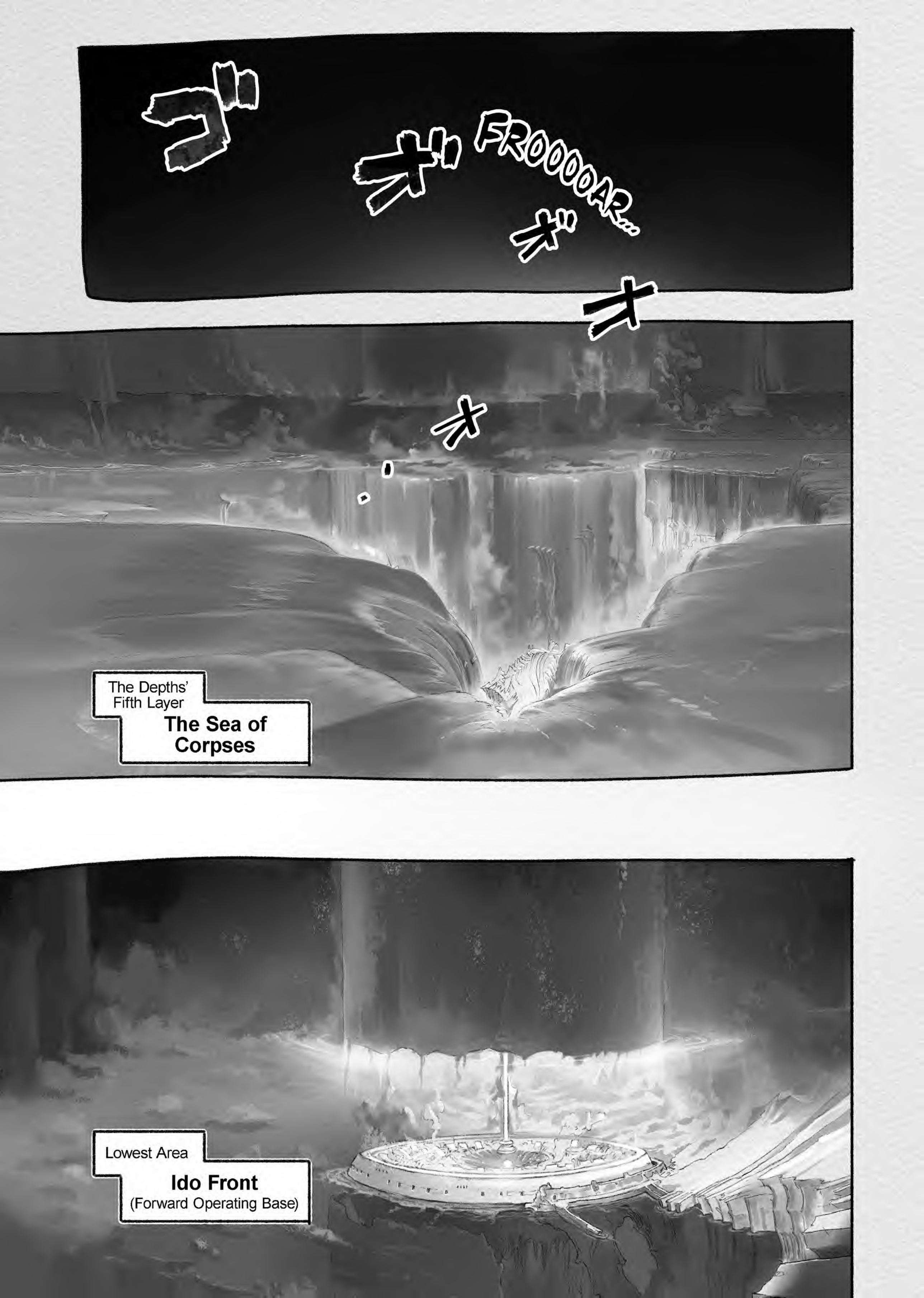
JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE ABYSS.

THOUGH NO LONGER A DOG...

PROTECT HER WELL, REG.

NOW, WHAT SHOULD I HAVE TO EAT?

Hello Abyss
39
Capital of the Unreturned


ゴ
ボ FROOOAR…
ボ
ボ
ボ
The Depths' Fifth Layer
The Sea of Corpses
Lowest Area
Ido Front
(Forward Operating Base)

Far Interior
Altar of the Absolute Boundary

DRO
?
IS THERE SOME KIND OF... MEMBRANE STRETCHED ACROSS IT?
HMM.
THINK IT'S OKAY TO TOUCH IT?
AH!
MEYAA!
ALL RIGHT ...
YIPLSH
ぷるるん

PUSH

NWOP

ぬるぽん

ZZZZ-

ZZZZ-

WOW ...

I CAN SEE OUT-SIDE.

THIS'S ETERNAL FORTUNE INCENSE.
I SEE.
CAVE RAIDERS BURN IT FOR CELEBRATIONS AND EVEN FUNERALS, DON'T THEY?
SNIFF... IT SMELLS FRESH...
I BET THAT BASTARD BONDREWD LIGHTS SOME EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.
.....
BONDREWD... WHAT WAS THAT GUY'S AIM ANYWAY?
WIGGLE WIGGLE
WHO KNOWS ?
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT WAS SIMPLY GOING TO THE BOTTOM OF THE NETHER-WORLD, THOUGH.
HE MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT "THE NEXT TWO THOUSAND YEARS."
WELL ... I SURE DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING BACK AND ASKING HIM.
THAT BASTARD'S WORDS ARE LACED WITH POISON. NO DOUBT ANYTHING HE'D SAY WOULD BE SELF-SERVING.
LET'S FOCUS ON WHAT'S NEXT INSTEAD. WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT POISON, RIGHT?
I... JUST WANT TO BE GENUINELY HAPPY ABOUT...
CONTINUING ON WITH YOU GUYS.

LET'S GO ON OUR ADVEN-TURE.
LET'S SHOW HIM.
BUT AT LEAST THAT'S *ALL* HE CAN DO NOW.
WELL ...
IT'S ANNOYING THAT HE CAN STILL PEEK IN ON MY VISION...
DAMN HIM... HE'S PICKED UP A STRANGE SKILL!!
DON'T SNIFF ME!
PUR-POSELY SNUCK UP ON ME, DIDN'T YOU?!
YOU ...
NANA-CHI ...!!
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU THINKING POSI-TIVELY.
FWUFF
NNAA!
VRUUN

IT'S DIVING DOWN?!
TH-THIS THING'S ...!
SHRU
IT STARTED MOVING.
I JUST RUBBED PRUSHKA A BIT AND...
AWW...
OOPS...
WOULDN'T BE VERY FUNNY IF IT STARTED ASCENDING INSTEAD.
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF THE PRUSH-STONE...!
R-RIKO!
.....
ADVENTURES HAVE A WAY OF...
JUST SUDDENLY GETTING STARTED, YOU KNOW?

RIKO, NANACHI!
THAT'S ...!
LOOM
EVEN THE LETTER DIDN'T MENTION THAT THING.
YOU THINK MAYBE... IT'S A FISH?

?!

WRSSSH

BONES ...

AND CORPSES THAT HAVE BEEN FROZEN STIFF...?!

WHAT IS THIS ...?!

WOOW!

SHEF

BUT IT'S AS THOUGH THEY HAVE TO LEAVE THEIR BODIES BEHIND HERE, HUH?

THEY SAY SOULS RETURN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE NETHER-WORLD...

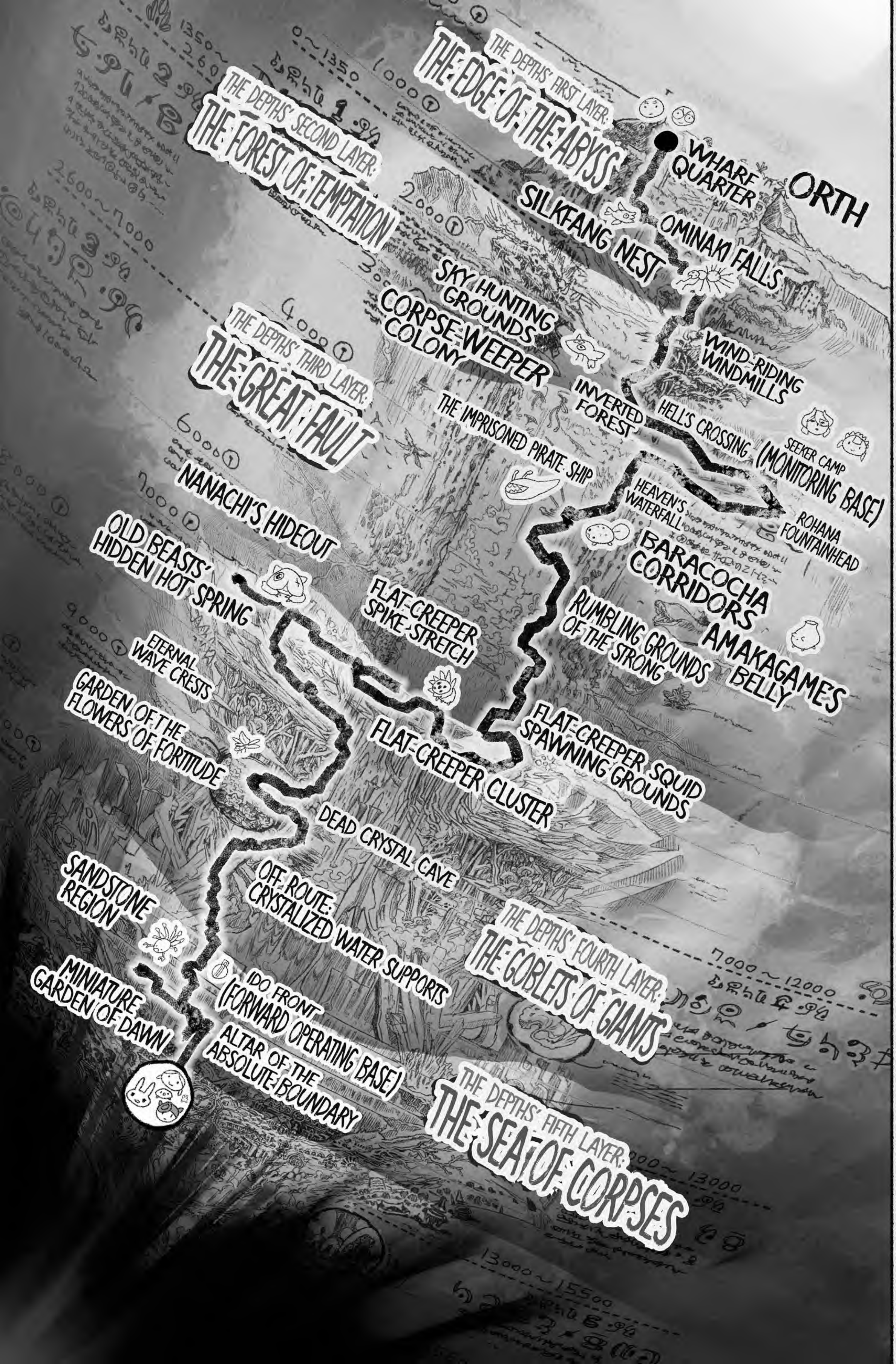
YEAH ...

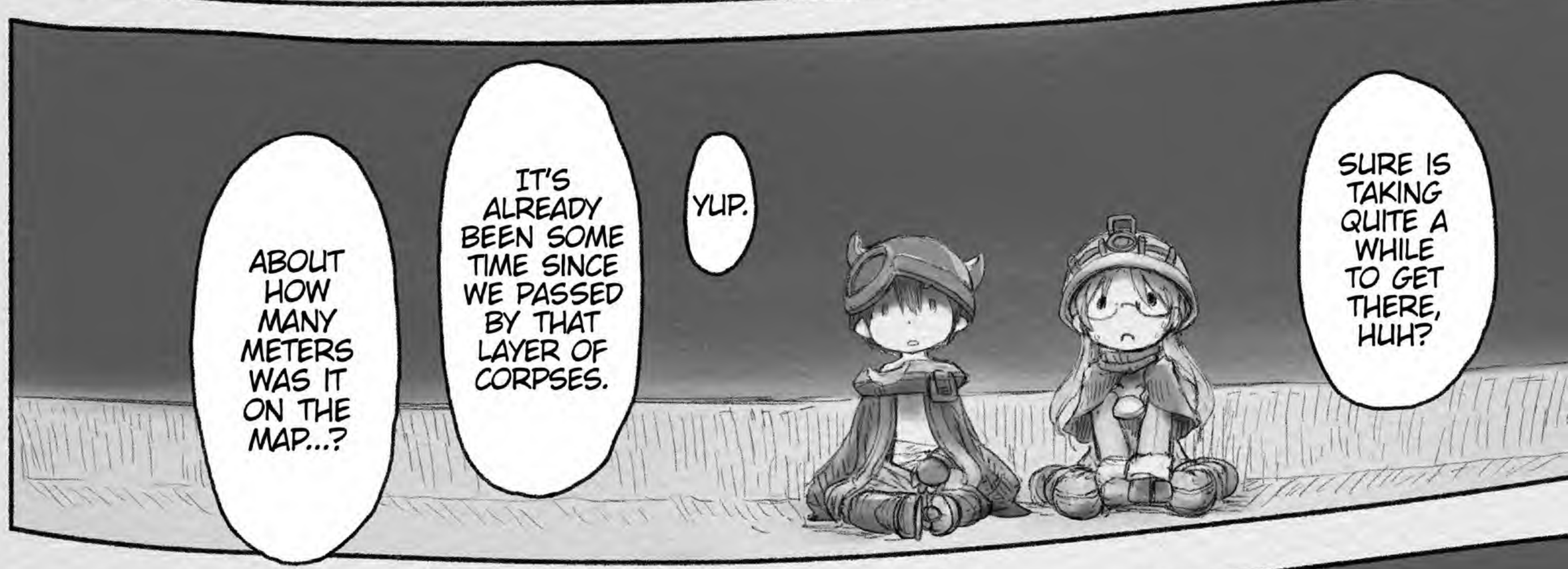
"THE SEA OF CORPSES."

I FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN THE TRUTH OF IT NOW.

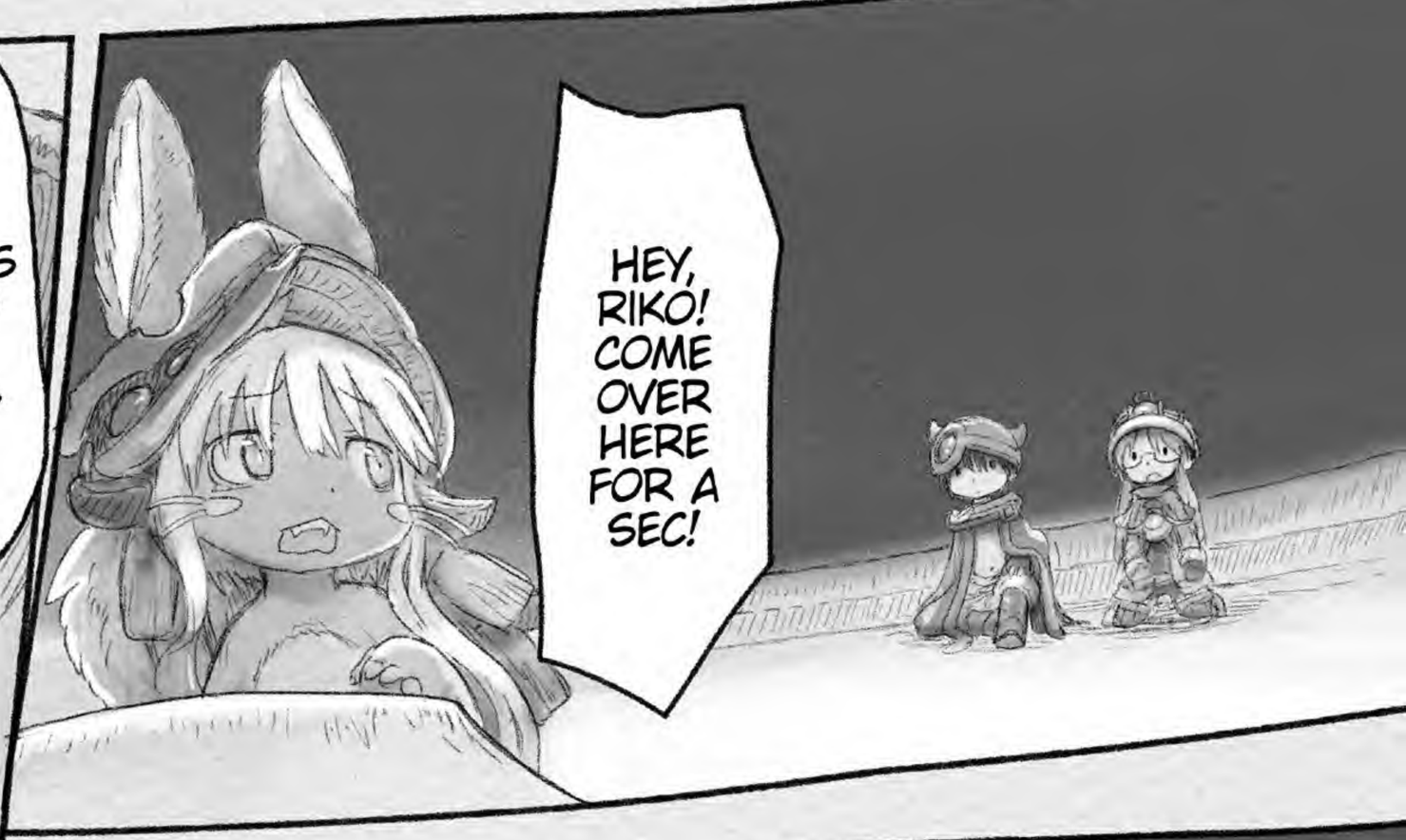
.....

YEAH.
IT'S FINALLY TIME.
OUR LAST DIVE.
SO THIS IS FINALLY IT, HUH?
LET'S GO!
THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A FINAL JOURNEY FROM WHICH WE CAN'T RETURN.
I KNEW WE WOULD!
TO BE HONEST, I DIDN'T THINK WE'D GET THIS FAR.


THE DEPTHS' FIRST LAYER:
THE EDGE OF THE ABYSS
WHARF QUARTER
ORTH
SILKFANG NEST
OMINAKI FALLS
THE DEPTHS' SECOND LAYER:
THE FOREST OF TEMPTATION
SKY HUNTING GROUNDS
CORPSE-WEEPER COLONY
WIND-RIDING WINDMILLS
INVERTED FOREST
THE DEPTHS' THIRD LAYER:
THE GREAT FAULT
THE IMPRISONED PIRATE SHIP
HELL'S CROSSING
SEEKER CAMP (MONITORING BASE)
NANACHI'S HIDEOUT
HEAVEN'S WATERFALL
ROHANA FOUNTAINHEAD
OLD BEASTS' HIDDEN HOT SPRING
BARACOCHA CORRIDORS
FLAT-CREEPER SPIKE-STRETCH
RUMBLING GROUNDS OF THE STRONG
AMAKAGAME'S BELLY
ETERNAL WAVE CRESTS
GARDEN OF THE FLOWERS OF FORTITUDE
FLAT-CREEPER CLUSTER
FLAT-CREEPER SQUID SPAWNING GROUNDS
DEAD CRYSTAL CAVE
SANDSTONE REGION
OFF-ROUTE: CRYSTALIZED WATER SUPPORTS
THE DEPTHS' FOURTH LAYER:
THE GOBLETS OF GIANTS
MINIATURE GARDEN OF DAWN
IDO FRONT (FORWARD OPERATING BASE)
ALTAR OF THE ABSOLUTE BOUNDARY
THE DEPTHS' FIFTH LAYER:
THE SEA OF CORPSES


ABOUT HOW MANY METERS WAS IT ON THE MAP...?
IT'S ALREADY BEEN SOME TIME SINCE WE PASSED BY THAT LAYER OF CORPSES.
YUP.
SURE IS TAKING QUITE A WHILE TO GET THERE, HUH?

IN A PART OF THE ALTAR THAT LOOKS KINDA IMPOR-TANT!
MEINYA'S TAKING A DUMP...


HEY, RIKO! COME OVER HERE FOR A SEC!

I DON'T THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO HOLD IT EITHER.
UMM... TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH ...

WILL THIS BOWL THING... BE ALL RIGHT SOILED LIKE THIS...?
HOW UNRES-TRAIN-ED.
OH ...
MEYAA...

I DUN-NO...

CAN'T YOU HOLD IT UNTIL WE GET OUT OF THIS THING?

NO... I GUESS THERE WASN'T A GOOD TIME TO, HUH?

OH, COME ON... BEFORE STEPPING INSIDE, YOU...

BOTH ...

?!

YOU MEAN PEE ...?!

!

LUCKILY, THE INCENSE IS STILL BURNING ...!

JUST DO IT HERE!

RIKO! THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT AWAITS US IN THE SIXTH LAYER.

THAT MANY CAVE RAIDERS LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE RELIEVING THEM-SELVES?

DIDN'T WE LEARN IN CLASS ...

MEYAA

BON-DREWD, YOU WATCH-ING THIS ...?

I AC-TUALLY FEEL PRETTY BAD ABOUT IT, YOU KNOW.

WEELL...

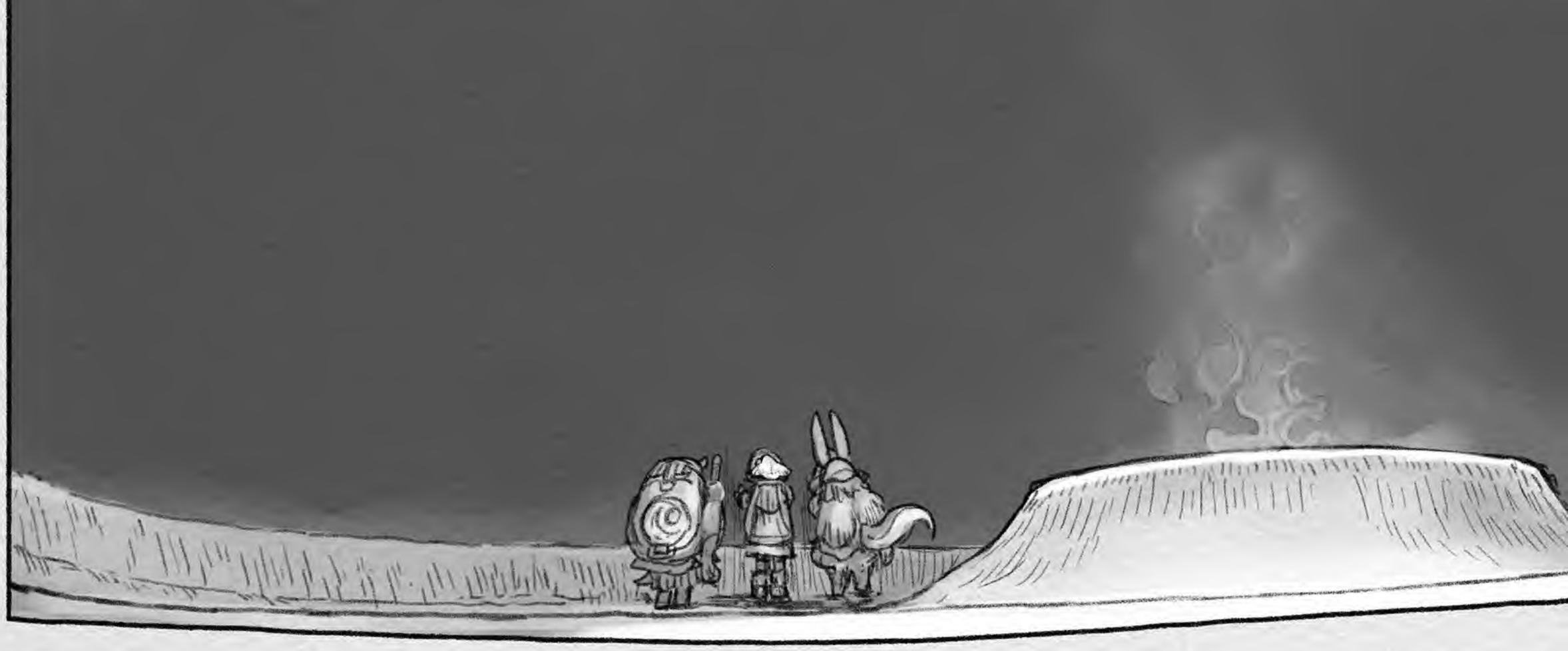
STEAM... ほか...

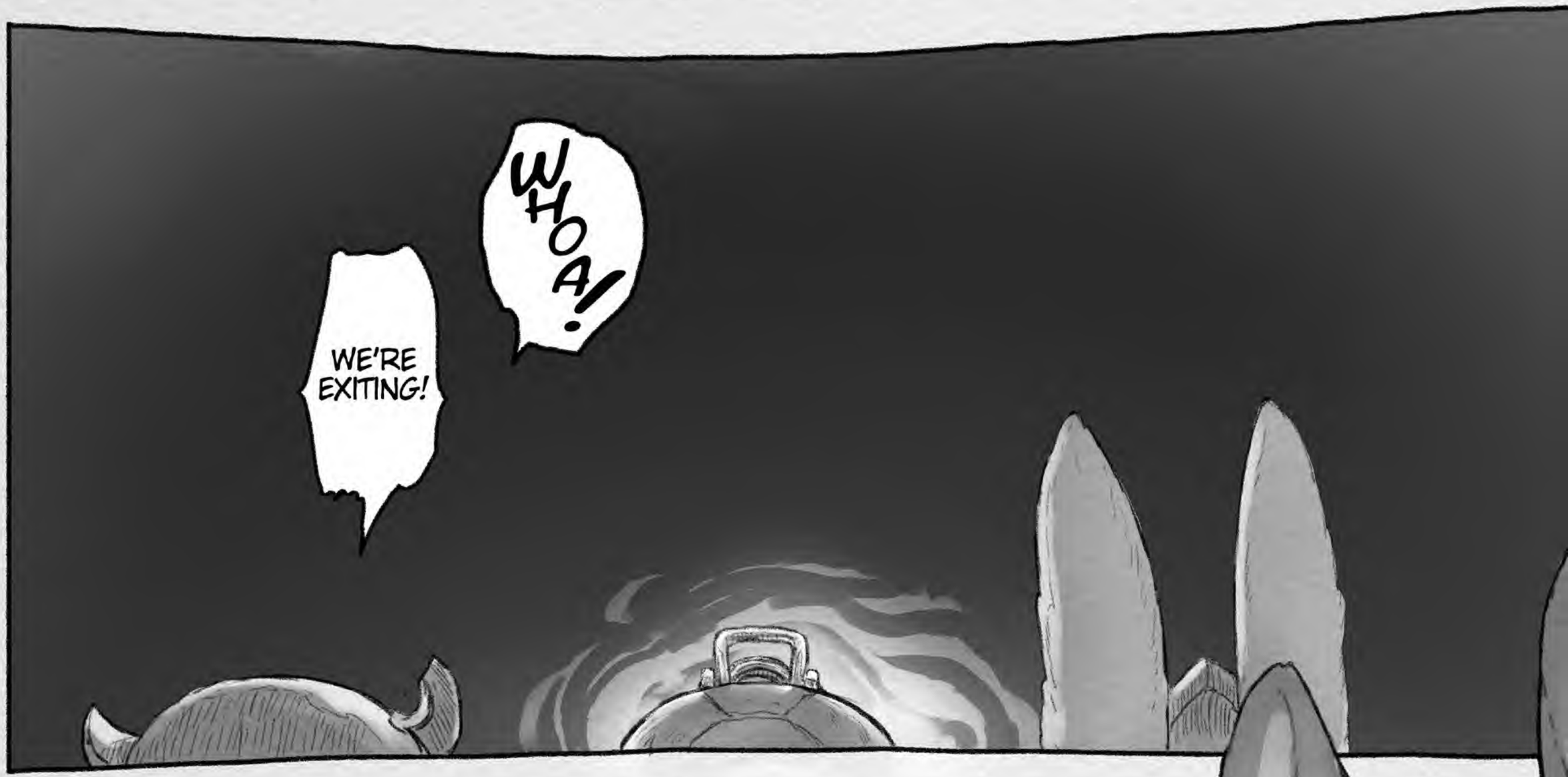
NNGH.

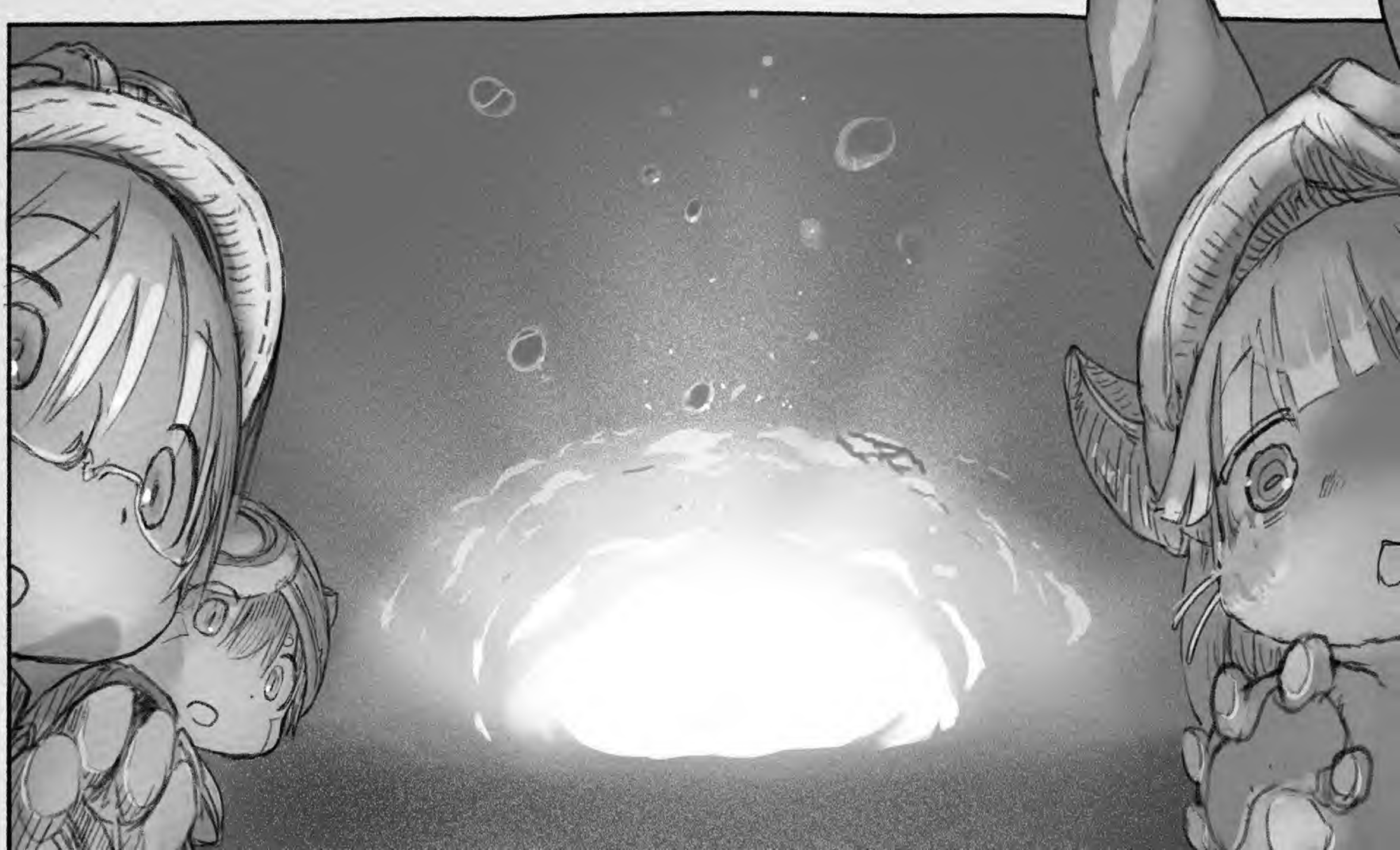
POOT

PLOP

IT'S SO QUIET... YOU CAN HEAR IT QUITE CLEAR-LY.




WHOA!
WE'RE EXITING!



HAVE WE ARRIVED...?
LET'S GO!
ズンZUN

The Depths' Sixth Layer
The Capital of the Unreturned

AMAZING...

WEELL NOW...
YOU KNOW THAT RUMOR ABOUT THERE BEING A CITY OF GOLD AT THE BOTTOM OF THE NETHER-WORLD?
YEAH.
I BET SOMEONE SAW THIS AND SENT UP A MAIL BALLOON.
IT'S SO HOT.

!
WHAT IS... THIS BUILDING ...?
ガラ... CHRK...

?!
SHWFF
ア ラ ア

ハ
SKUNCH

LOOK!
OVER HERE IT'S MIXED IN WITH THE BUILDING!

IT'S MADE OF SOME KIND OF CRYSTAL.
CARE-FUL, OKAY?
SORRY...

OR IS IT A MIRAGE CREATED BY THE CRYSTALS?

DID THE WHOLE CITY GET TURNED INTO A FOSSIL?

IS IT HERE BECAUSE THE GROUND IT WAS ON GOT SWALLOWED UP A LONG TIME AGO...?

WHAT IS THIS PLACE...?

HOW WAS IT MADE?

WHAT IN THE WORLD...

IS THIS PLACE?!

I CAN'T TELL AT ALL!

RIKO.

SORRY TO BUG YOU WHEN YOU'RE SO EN-GROSS-ED...

BUT A LOT OF **FLOWS OF CONSCIOUS-NESS** ARE GATHERING.

IT'S DANGER-OUS HERE.

LET'S LOOK FOR A PLACE WE CAN CAMP.

OKAY.

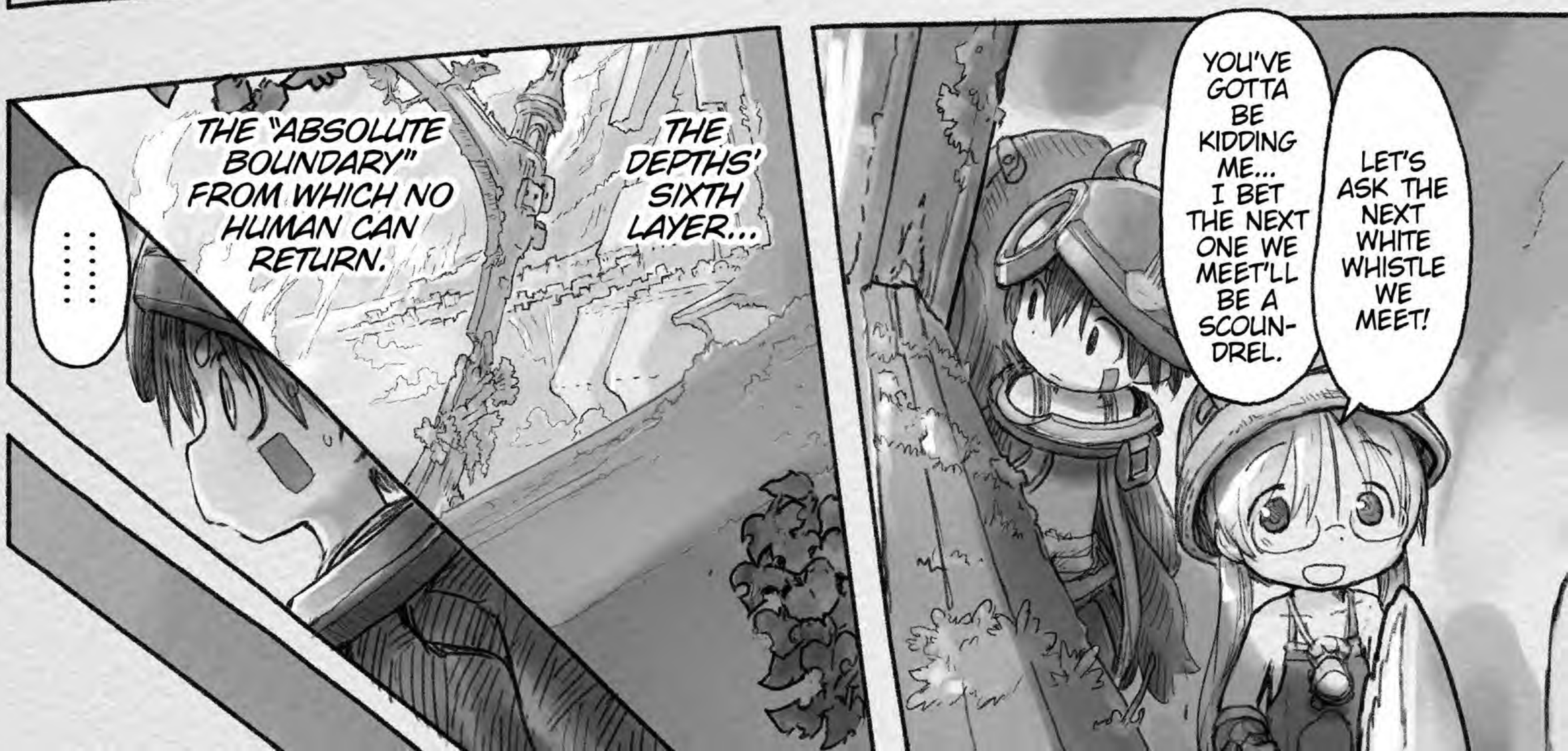
DO YOU HAVE A LARGISH PIECE OF PAPER, NANACHI?

WE HAVE TO MAKE OUR OWN MAP NOW.

TUD

MUST MEAN WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BLAZE OUR OWN TRAIL NOW, HUH?
IN THAT CASE ...
I'LL WALK IN FRONT SINCE I'M ABLE TO SEE THE MOVEMENTS OF THE FORCE FIELD.
YOU GIVE THE ORDERS, TEAM LEADER.
THERE AREN'T ANY DIRECTIONS IN YOUR MOM'S LETTER ?
NOPE. IT'S MOSTLY JUST ABOUT FOOD FROM HERE ON.

COME TO THINK OF IT, WE THREE PLUS ONE MADE IT DOWN HERE JUST FINE, DIDN'T WE?
DOESN'T THAT MEAN WHITE WHISTLES DON'T NECESSARILY COME HERE ON THEIR OWN EITHER?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
THAT BUNCH DOES TEND TO MAKE ITS OWN RULES.
LEAVE IT TO ME!
NO PROBLEM.
REG, HOW'RE YOUR INJURIES? WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT TAKING THE REAR?
TEE HEE HEE!
"TEAM LEADER."


.....
THE "ABSOLUTE BOUNDARY" FROM WHICH NO HUMAN CAN RETURN.
THE DEPTHS' SIXTH LAYER...
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME... I BET THE NEXT ONE WE MEET'LL BE A SCOUNDREL.
LET'S ASK THE NEXT WHITE WHISTLE WE MEET!

AMARANTHINE-DECEPTOR

"IN THE SIXTH LAYER, ONE OF THEM IS AS DANGEROUS AS A SWARM OF AMARANTHINE-DECEPTORS."

NOPE, LET'S PASS ON THAT!

THINK WE CAN MAKE IT PAST ...?

"THEY'RE TENACIOUS AND MOVE FREELY IN THREE DIMENSIONS WITHOUT ANY REGARD TO THE CURSE."

"THEY HAVE POISONOUS SCALES THAT RUPTURE WHEN STRUCK. NEVERTHELESS, MALES FIGHT BY AGGRESSIVELY SLAMMING INTO EACH OTHER.

"TURBINID-DRAGON.

WHOA!

IT SAYS, "THEIR FRESHLY LAID EGGS ARE PRETTY GOOD"!

HOW DO THEY TASTE?

GEO-THERMAL VENTS...?

I DON'T SEE ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

IT SAYS THEY LIVE NEAR GEO-THERMAL VENTS AND ARE DOCILE.

ARE... SOME OF THESE MIZO-JACKS?

YOU'RE GOING TO... TRY EATING SOME?

NOT EVEN MOTHER HAS EATEN THESE EGGS JUST BEFORE THEY HATCH.

THOSE DON'T SEEM FRESHLY LAID TO ME.

THEY'RE MOVING?!

RUSTLE... ゴゴ～ン...

HEY, LOOK AT THESE! THEY'RE EGGS, AREN'T THEY?

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT LIGHT...?

...?!

FLASH!!

ZUMU...

HMM ...?

??

SHINE

BROOOT

WSH!
BROSH
GAAAHH!!
WHA...?!
WHAT'S THAT?!
POISON GAS!! DON'T BREATHE IT IN!!
MEYAA!
すわあ
SUWAA
SLIIZZZ

フーフー…
フゥフゥ…
WHAT IS... THAT?
NNAA!
RUN, BOTH OF YOU!!
WERE THOSE THINGS THE GEO-THERMAL VENTS SHE MEN-TIONED? WHAT A PLACE TO MAKE A NEST.
THEY LOOKED LIKE HUGE BUBBLES, DIDN'T THEY?!
HUUURRY!

SHOULD BE OKAY IF WE BOIL THEM.
HOW IS IT?
Procuring water.
WHOA!
THEY MADE IT THROUGH ALL THAT WITHOUT BREAK-ING!
SURE ARE STRONG!
TA-DAA!
HURRY UP AND OPEN IT...!
KAP-CHIK
I'M SO HUN-GRY...
I'M BOIL-ING THEM NOW.
Add a bit of rock salt.
They used daji cones as a fire accelerant.
Better safe than sorry, so boil them well.
DAJI CONE
?!
WRIGGLE
WEEL...
A scent of rich meat.

YOU SERIOUS ?!
YOU'RE GONNA TRY IT?!
Testing for poison.
WHAT SORT OF BODY DO THEY HAVE, ANYWAY?
GUESS BOILING ISN'T ENOUGH TO BREAK DOWN THEIR MUSCLES THEN, HUH?
I WOULD'VE PREFERRED A FRESHLY LAID ONE...
JUST A REFLEX... PROBABLY.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S DEAD.
IT...
IT'S STILL ALIVE EVEN AFTER WE BOILED IT?!
MUZUI...
KUZUI...
HOW IS IT?
!!
?!
IT...
?
IT'S... MOVING INSIDE MY MOUTH ...?!
?
HEY ...
GIVE IT A TASTE...
RIKO.
WHAT ?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?!
IF YOU DO A GOOD JOB THEN... WE MIGHT GET TO SEE IT AGAIN.

Add aroma with smashed type 4 mixed with dried kashita and rock salt.

AND THEN GRILL IT!

COAT EVERY-THING ...

SZZZZ

SMASH THIS UP...

SPRIN-KLE IT ON ...

SNAP

CRACKLE

KASHITA

DRIED.

PROCESSED BY NANACHI. ☐ CONTAINS FUR.

Spread on a thin layer of the oil that's contained inside the egg.

I DON'T WANT THAT THING!

RIKO!

Type 4 Energy Ration

WEEEEEL...

Riko Eggs: Grilled Hatchling

Boiled and grilled almost-hatched mizojack eggs.

Appearance: Somewhat fierce.

RIGHT?

IT'S PRETTY GOOD ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT, HUH?

AMAZ-ING...!

!!

BUT IT *DOES* SMELL CRAZY GOOD!

IT'S MOVING, ISN'T IT?!

Scent: An assault of grease and herbs.

TWITCH

CHOMP
まくっ
うぞ…
FIDGET…
PEER…
URNGH…!
!!
?!
QUIV
QUIVER
H-HOT…!
WAS IT TOO HOT ?…

WE DID IT!

ぱっ

WAG

H-HOT…!

PWAAH…

ぷぁっ

HERE. JUST SLOW DOWN.

Water.

WELL, I DON'T HAVE ANY MEMORY OF IT.

?

AT ANY RATE… I FEEL I'VE EATEN THIS BEFORE SOME-WHERE.

MMM

NAT…

HE LIKED IT SO MUCH HE EVEN TRIED TO TAKE OTHER PEOPLE'S.

AT THE OR-PHAN-AGE…

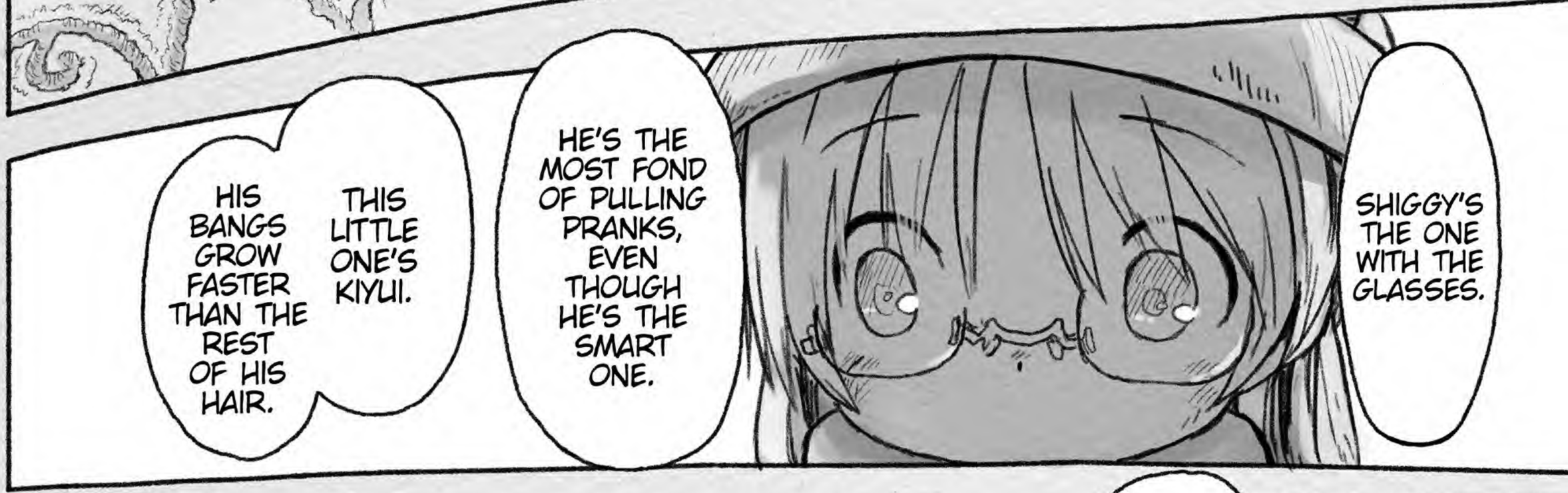
I REMEM-BER NOW!

I FOR-GET, BUT THIS TASTES LIKE THAT BOTTLED THING WE COOKED UP!

ON CAVE RAIDING MEMORIAL DAY, A FOR-EIGN… WHAT WAS IT AGAIN?

!

NAT?
WHO'S THAT?
THIS'S NAT.
HE'S A PERVERT WHO USED TO PEEP AT ME WHEN I GOT STRUNG UP NAKED.
WHEN HE GROWS UP, HE'S GOING TO BE THE DIRECTOR OF AN ORPHANAGE IN THE WHARF QUARTER.


SHIGGY'S THE ONE WITH THE GLASSES.
HE'S THE MOST FOND OF PULLING PRANKS, EVEN THOUGH HE'S THE SMART ONE.
THIS LITTLE ONE'S KIYUI.
HIS BANGS GROW FASTER THAN THE REST OF HIS HAIR.

AND THIS'S LEADER ...
PRUSHKA GLADLY LISTENED TO ME TALK ABOUT THIS STUFF, TOO...
I WON-DER...
IF EVERY-ONE'S DOING ALL RIGHT.

I DON'T HAVE MUCH, BUT I HAVE AT LEAST ONE MAIL-BALLOON KIT, YOU KNOW.
WHY DON'T YOU SEND THEM A LETTER?
FWUFF FWUFF
ふわ
ふわ
THE RAIDERS I ATTENDED TO ON THEIR DEATHBEDS OFTEN SAID THAT, TOO.
STILL... AS LONG AS YOU'RE IN THE ABYSS, YOU CAVE RAIDERS ARE CONNECTED.
WELL... EVEN IF YOU WORRY ABOUT THEM, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'LL EVER GET TO SEE THEM AGAIN, YOU KNOW.
SLUMP...
THAT'S RIGHT!
All ad-dressed to you guys!
I'll send a whole bunch of 'em!
YOU SAID YOU'D SEND SOME, BUT WE'VE PRETTY MUCH FORGOTTEN, HAVEN'T WE?
COME TO THINK OF IT...
WE HAVE TO LET 'EM KNOW ABOUT TEAM RIKO'S GREAT ACHIEVE-MENTS!
LET'S SEND A LETTER!
THIS IS THE DEPTHS' SIXTH LAYER, YOU KNOW!

MY OWN NAME WAS A DOG'S, YOU KNOW!

WELL, YOU ARE KINDA LIKE A DOG, AREN'T YOU ...?

I SEE...

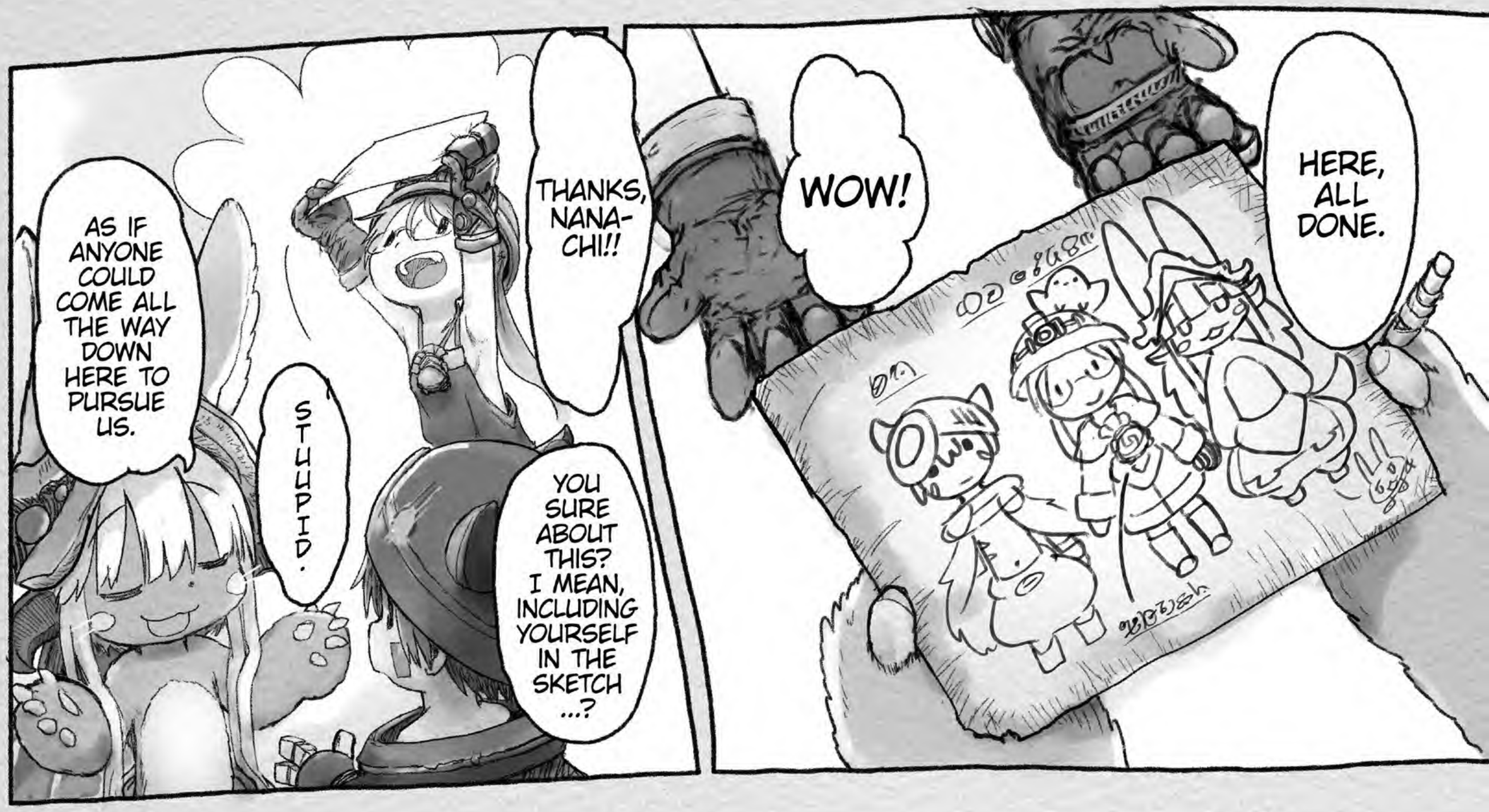
WE'LL GO WITH THAT UNTIL WE THINK OF SOMETHING BETTER!

SOMETIMES YOU'RE TOO LAID-BACK, RIKO.

CAN'T WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE NAME "TEAM RIKO"?

SURE, BUT...

ISN'T IT TOO PLAIN ?



THAT THE ODDS OF A MAIL BALLOON REACHING THEM FROM THE DEEPER DEPTHS ARE EXTREMELY LOW.

SHIGGY ONCE SAID...

YOU KNOW, THE ABYSS IS A PLACE WHERE ONE'S MINDSET SOMETIMES OPENLY MANIFESTS ITSELF.

NOW!

IF YOUR FEARS CAN TAKE SHAPE AND MANIFEST IN YOUR BODY...

THEN COULDN'T YOUR **WISHES** ALSO TAKE SHAPE AND BECOME REALITY?

LET'S JUST BELIEVE ...

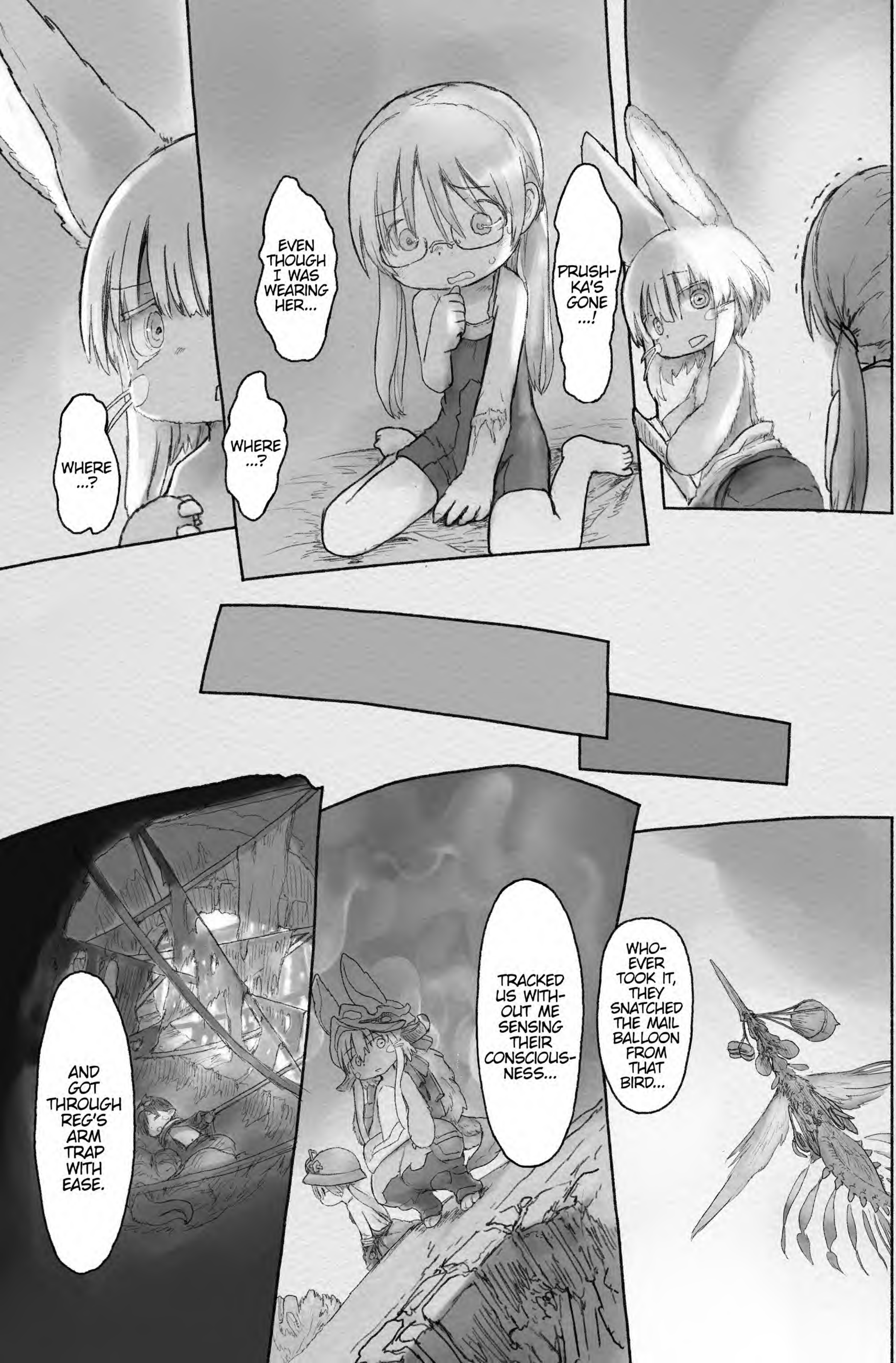
THAT IT'LL DEFI-NITELY REACH THEM.

っ
ぱっ
SNATCH

DOESN'T WORK ON THESE GUYS HERE, HUH?
THE BIRD RE-PEL-LENT ...
.....
AH!
AHH
キュイ
SKREE
LET'S HIT THE SACK FOR THE NIGHT.
YEAH... I'LL JUST SULK IN BED...
I BET YOUR MOM SCREWED UP LIKE THAT BEFORE, TOO.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
ぽん
PAT

ZZZZ
YAAWN!
?
はも
NOM
DROOL

WHA...
WHAT IS THIS ...?
AAH?!


WHERE...?
EVEN THOUGH I WAS WEARING HER...
WHERE...?
PRUSH-KA'S GONE...!
AND GOT THROUGH REG'S ARM TRAP WITH EASE.
TRACKED US WITH-OUT ME SENSING THEIR CONSCIOUS-NESS...
WHO-EVER TOOK IT, THEY SNATCHED THE MAIL BALLOON FROM THAT BIRD...

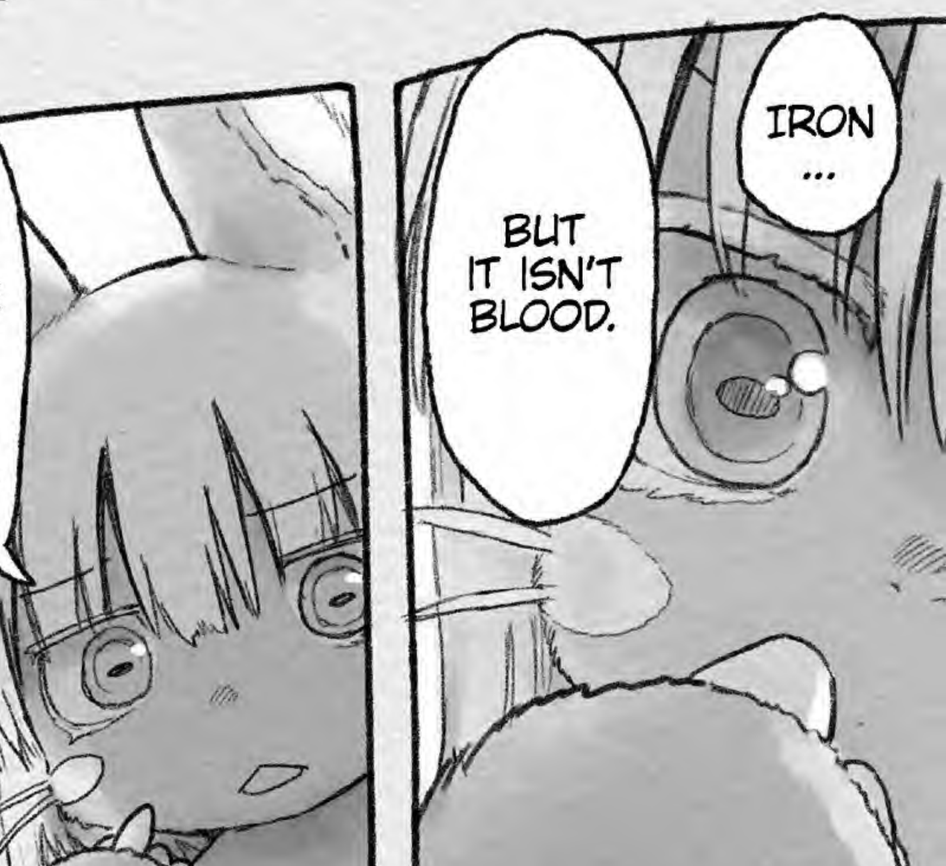
WHAT A MESS.

PRUSHKA...

SNIFFLE...

HICCUP!

MEYAA...



WE'RE GOING TO GET PRUSHKA BACK.

LET'S GO AFTER THEM, RIKO!!

TAKING THE TROUBLE TO LEAVE ALL THESE CLUES BEHIND... THEY'RE TAKING US FOR FOOLS, HUH?

NNGH...

MEYAA.

PRUSHKA'S SCENT... IT'S FAINT, BUT PRESENT.

NO CHANGES IN THE FORCE FIELD.

THIS WAY.

DOGGIE ...

SNIFF すふ

SNIFF すふ

HEY.
MEINYA FOUND SOME-THING.

MEYAA!

UH, DOES THAT THING...
.....

THE REMAINS OF... SOME SMALL ANIMAL ...?
WHAT IS THAT?

WHOA ...

ネチ...
NLRCH...

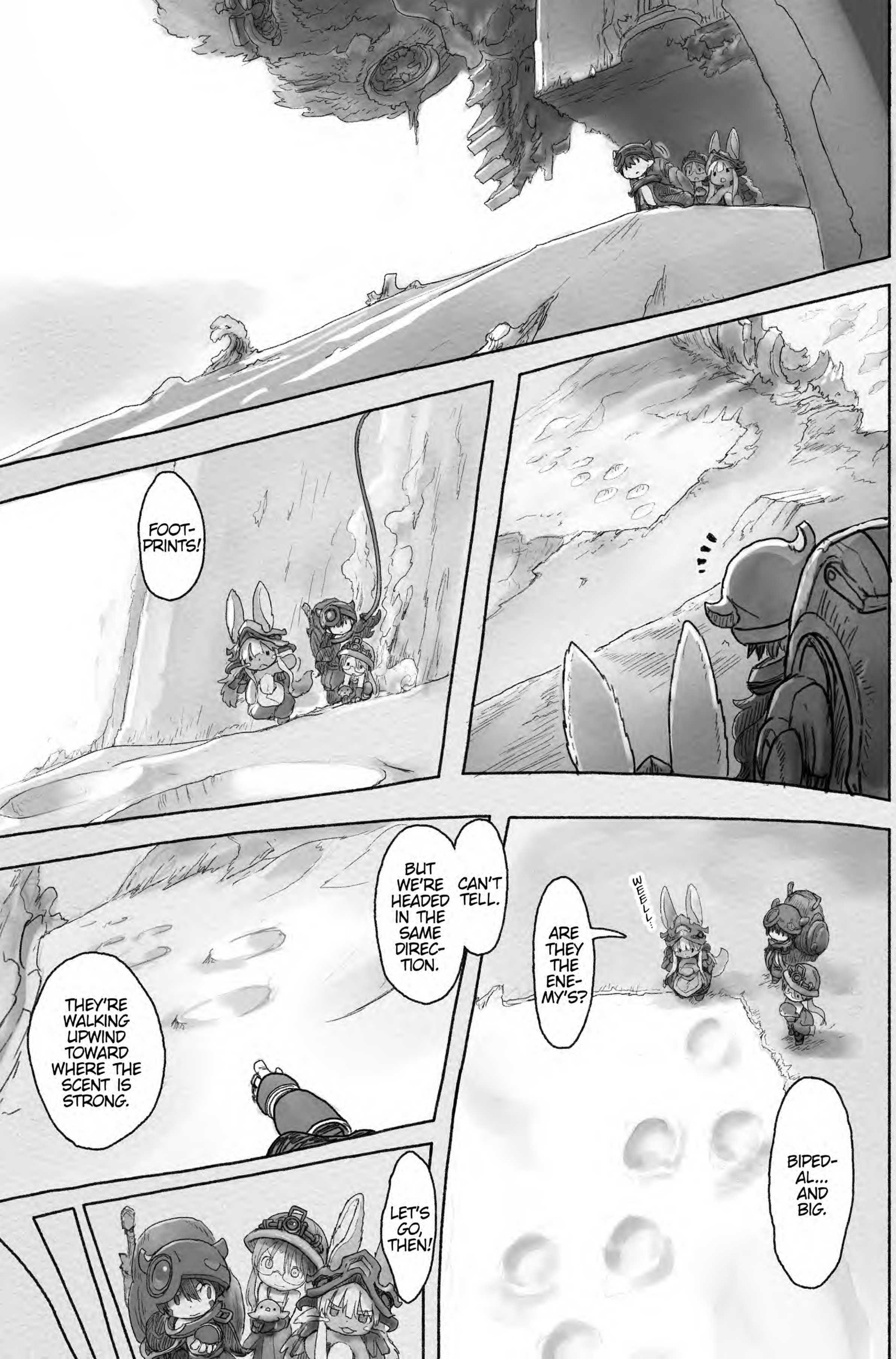
HAVE ITS BUTT SEWN SHUT ...?

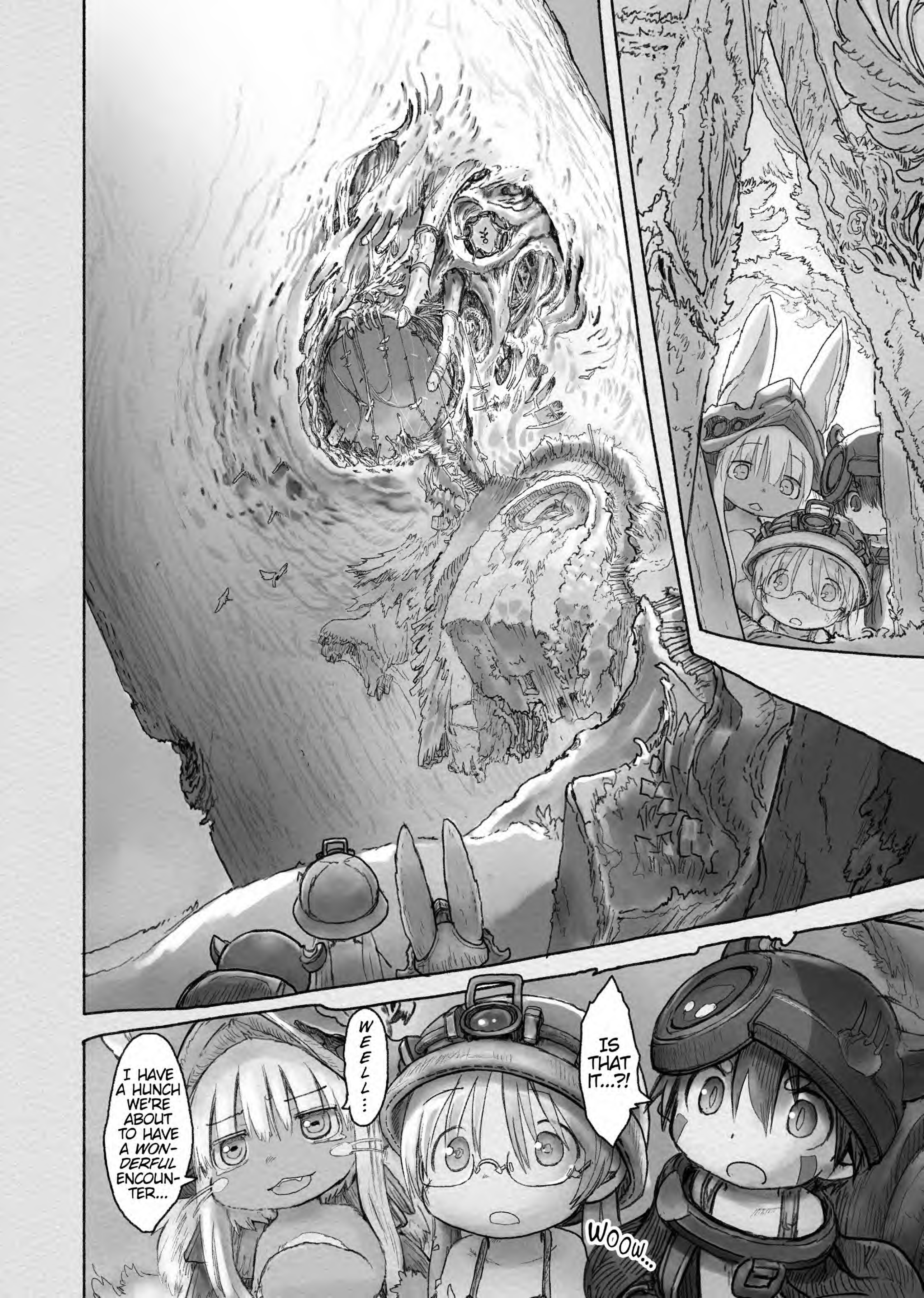
WHAT ARE THESE ...?
THERE'S HAIR STUFFED INTO THEM...
ALONG WITH THE FLESH AND FAT.
IS THIS... THE ENEMY'S BODY HAIR?!
.....
SNIFF! ん...
THINK YOU CAN FOL-LOW THEIR TRAIL USING THAT?
HEY!
COME ON, WHAT'S WRONG?
NO...
THIS IS...
THIS CAME FROM ...
YOU AND RIKO, NANA-CHI ...!!

NNAA?!
...?!

DAMN, HE'S SERI-OUS!
RIKO'S PIG-TAIL...
AND MY TAIL HAIRS.
THEY DID WHATEVER THEY WANTED, ASSAULTING US WHILE WE SLEPT...!
DAMN THEM...
THEY ALSO PLUCKED OTHER PLACES, MAKING SURE NOT TO TAKE SO MUCH WE'D NOTICE.

HEY...
IT'S SUPER CREEPY.
SH-SHOULD WE TAKE SOME TIME TO RE-GROUP...?
NUH-UH... LET'S GO.
WE CAN'T LET SOME-THING LIKE THIS SCARE US.


FOOT-PRINTS!
WEELL...
ARE THEY THE ENE-MY'S?
BIPED-AL... AND BIG.
BUT WE'RE HEADED IN THE SAME DIREC-TION.
CAN'T TELL.
THEY'RE WALKING UPWIND TOWARD WHERE THE SCENT IS STRONG.
LET'S GO, THEN!


I HAVE A HUNCH WE'RE ABOUT TO HAVE A *WONDERFUL* ENCOUNTER...
WEELL...
IS THAT IT...?!
WOOW...

TURBINID-DRAGON

RIKO'S SIZE.

ALL WE KNOW IS WHAT'S WRITTEN IN LYZA'S NOTES AND THE FACT THAT THEY'RE DAMN BIG. THE CREATURES OF THE SUPER DEEP LAYERS ARE UNKNOWN EVEN TO ME. KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE NEXT REPORT.

DISTANT CHARACTERS

ORTH, EAST DISTRICT

A CONVERSATION BETWEEN SIBLINGS IN THE EXHIBITION HALL OF CAVE-RAIDING HISTORY.

◆ LOOK, MENAE.
THE CHARACTERS WE USE ARE JUST A SMALL FRACTION OF ALL THE NETHER GLYPHS.

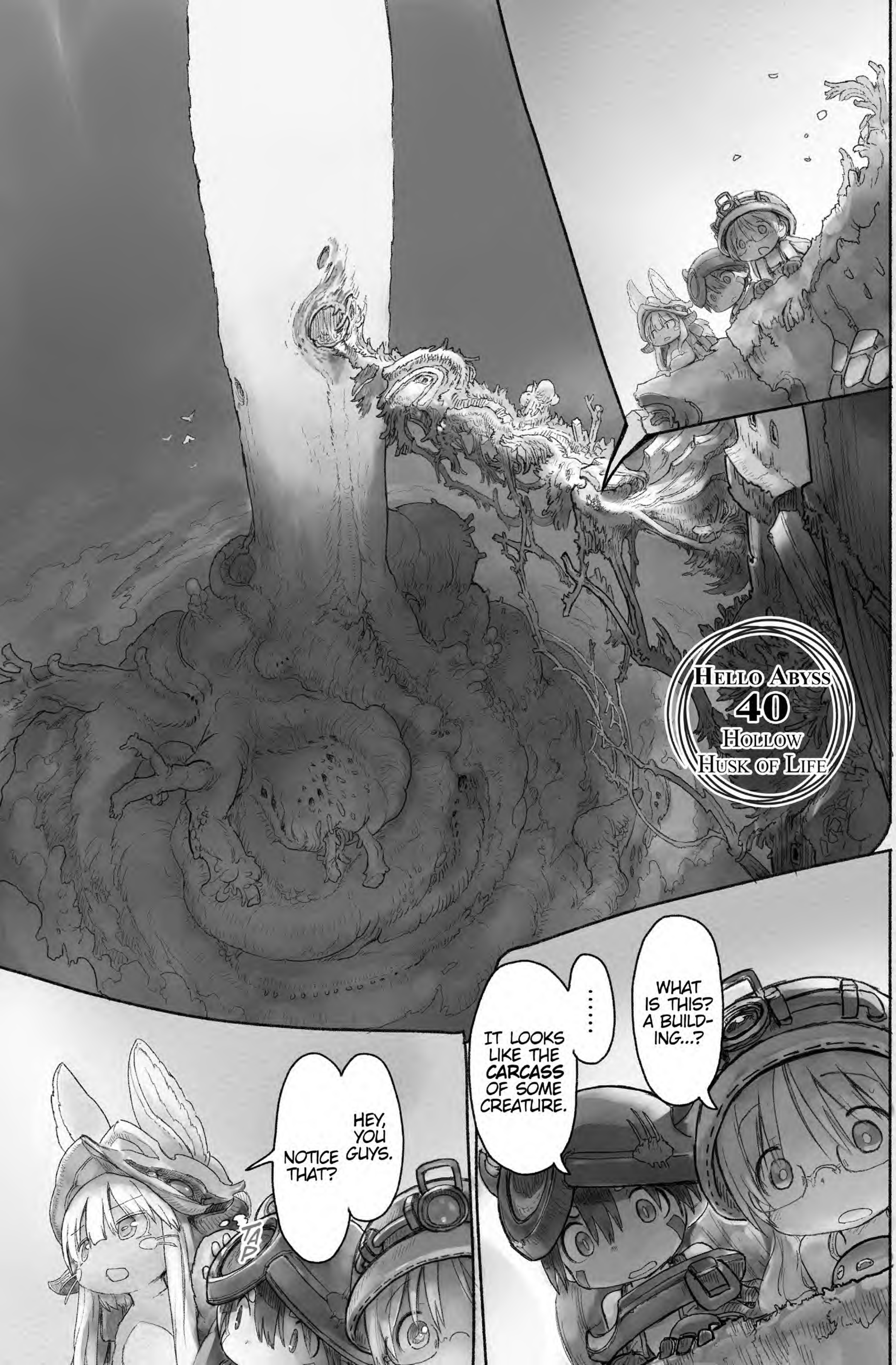
◇ I DON'T KNOW ANY OF THESE CHARACTERS... THEY'RE ALL SO COMPLICATED, AREN'T THEY?

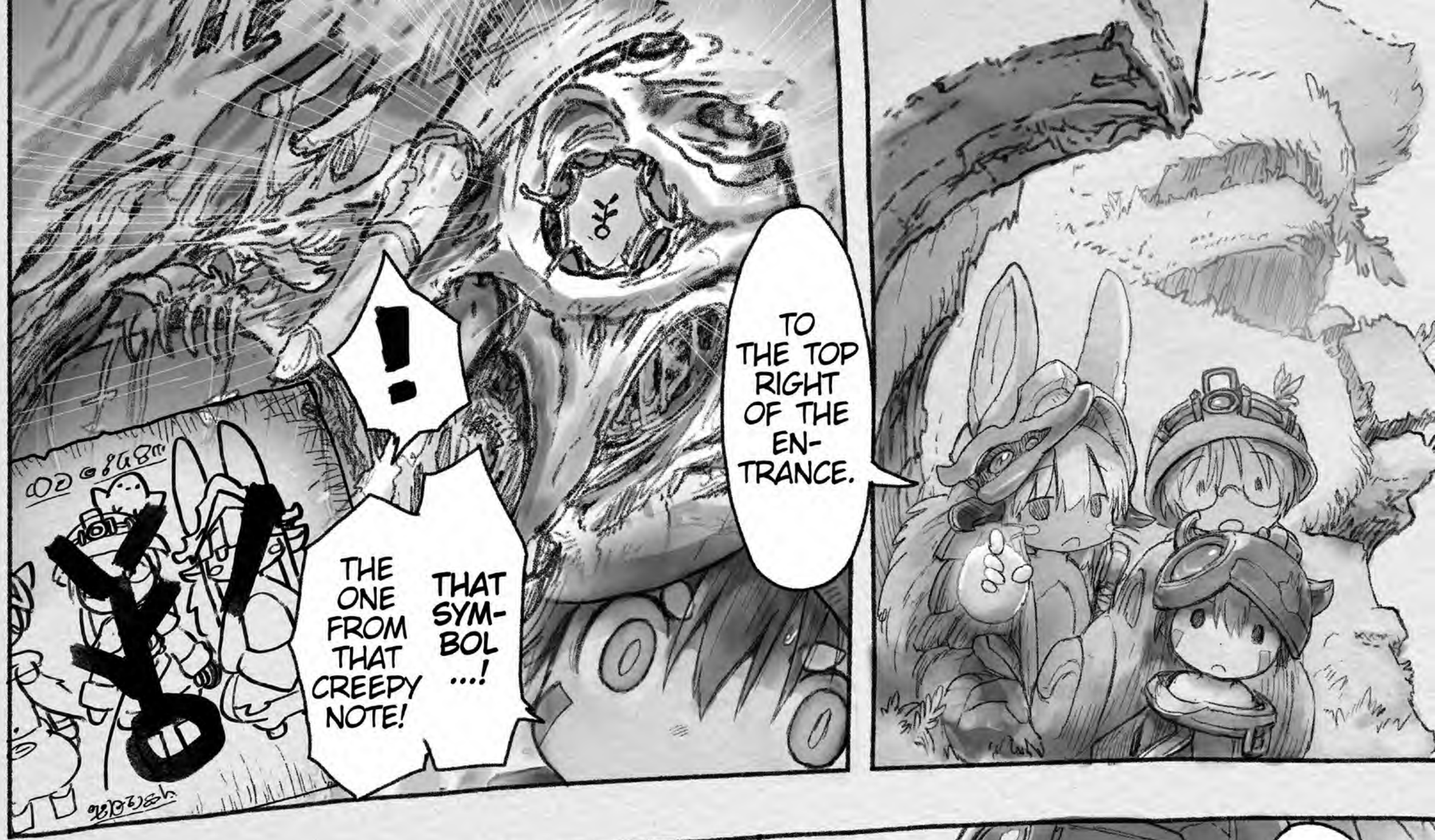
◆ TRUE. THEY'RE MORE COMPLEX THAN THE CHARACTERS WE USE. FROM WHAT'S SAID TO BE THE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PICTOGRAPHS FOUND AMONG THE RUINS INSIDE THE ABYSS, ONLY SIMPLE ONES WERE SELECTED AND MATCHED UP WITH THE SOUNDS OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE... THOSE HAVE BECOME THE NETHER GLYPHS THAT WE USE.

◇ SHERUMI, EVEN I KNOW THAT. THOSE ARE THE ONES THAT CAVE RAIDERS USED AS CODES, RIGHT?

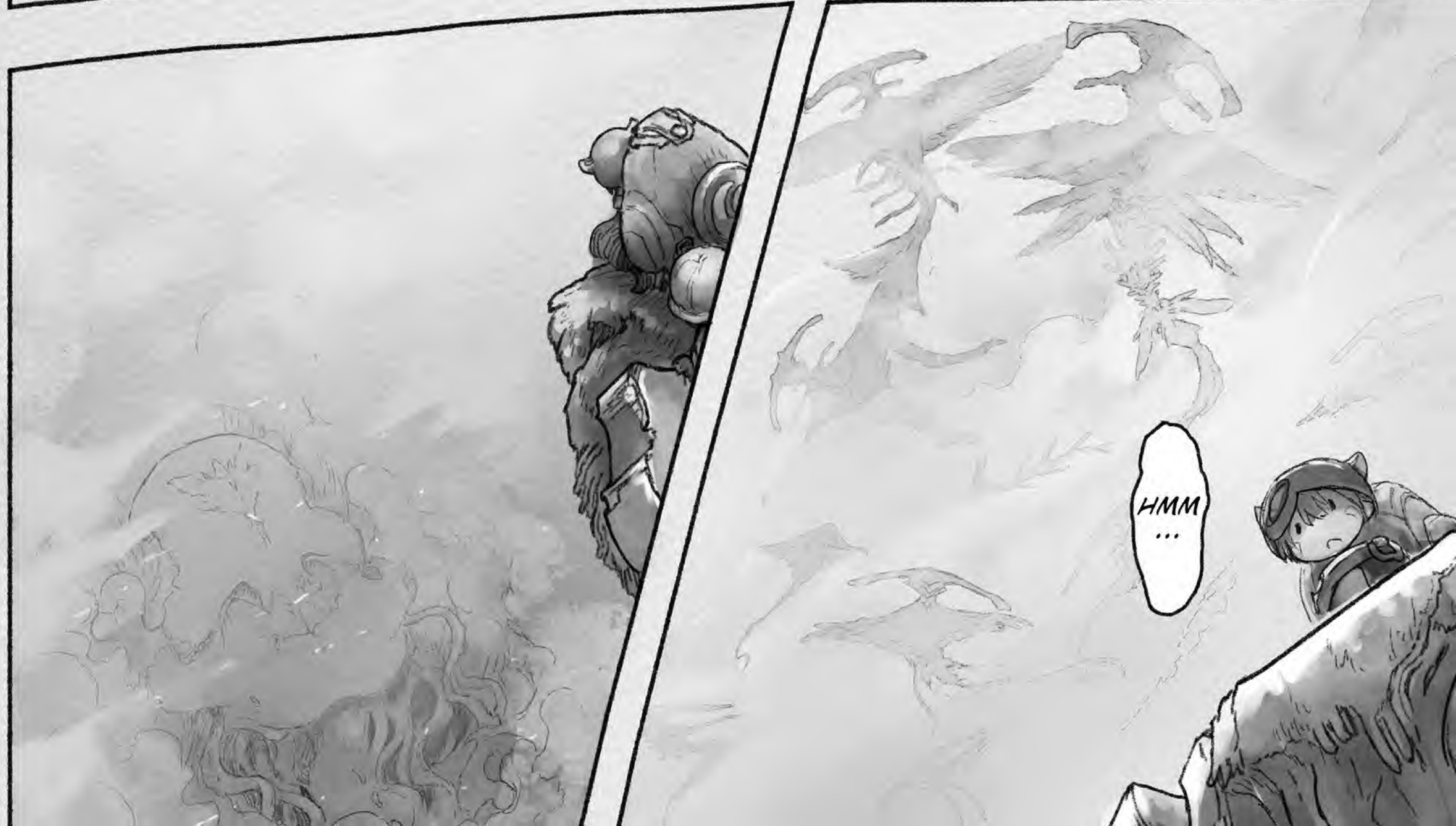
THESE DECIPHERED, COMPARATIVELY STRAIGHTFORWARD IDEOGRAPHS ARE KNOWN AS "SIMPLIFIED CHARACTERS" AND HAVE BEEN USED IN ORTH SINCE APPROXIMATELY 300 YEARS AGO.

◆ RIGHT. PLUS, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE CHARACTERS ORIGINALLY HAD A SOUND AND A MEANING... THEY WERE IDEOGRAPHS. TAKE THIS ONE FOR EXAMPLE, MENAE. DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS?


Hello Abyss
40
Hollow
Husk of Life
WHAT IS THIS? A BUILDING...?
.....
IT LOOKS LIKE THE CARCASS OF SOME CREATURE.
HEY, YOU GUYS. NOTICE THAT?
TAP


!
THE ONE FROM THAT CREEPY NOTE!
THAT SYMBOL ...!
TO THE TOP RIGHT OF THE EN-TRANCE.

YEAH, YOU SAID IT. LUCKILY, THE GROUND LEADING TO THAT ENTRANCE IS PRETTY LEVEL...
NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THE STRAINS WHILE ENTERING OR EXITING.
WE HAVE TO GO!
WE'RE GOING TO GET PRUSH-KA BACK!
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
BEATS ME, BUT--


HMM ...

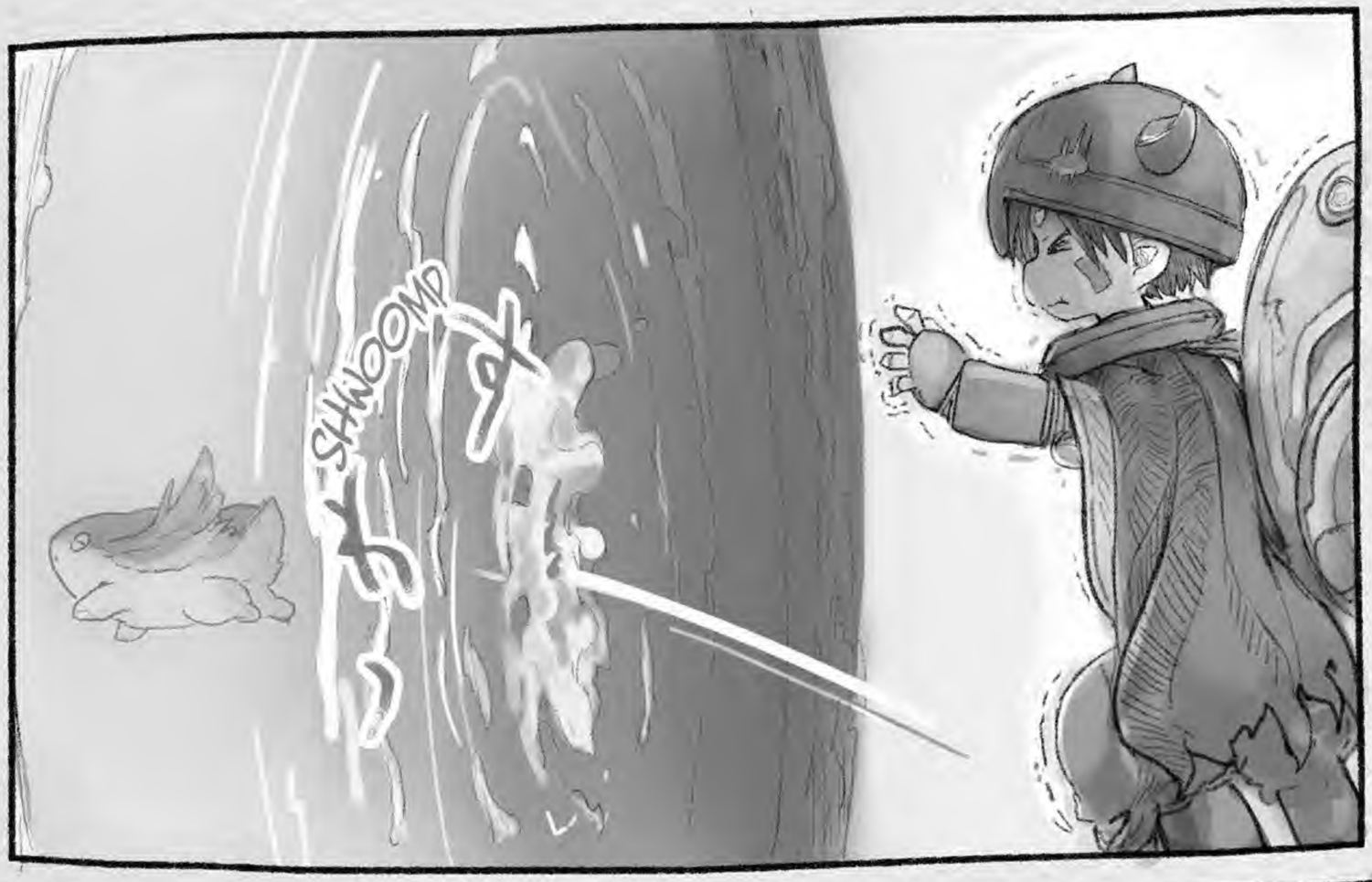
GET READY.
NOW ...

ARE YOU OKAY WITH THIS ?
WEELL...
WE'RE AT LEAST GONNA MAKE A LOT OF SMOKE AS WE GO.
I'M COUNTING ON YOU IF THINGS GO BAD.
NOTHING BUT THINGS I DON'T KNOW ABOUT HERE...

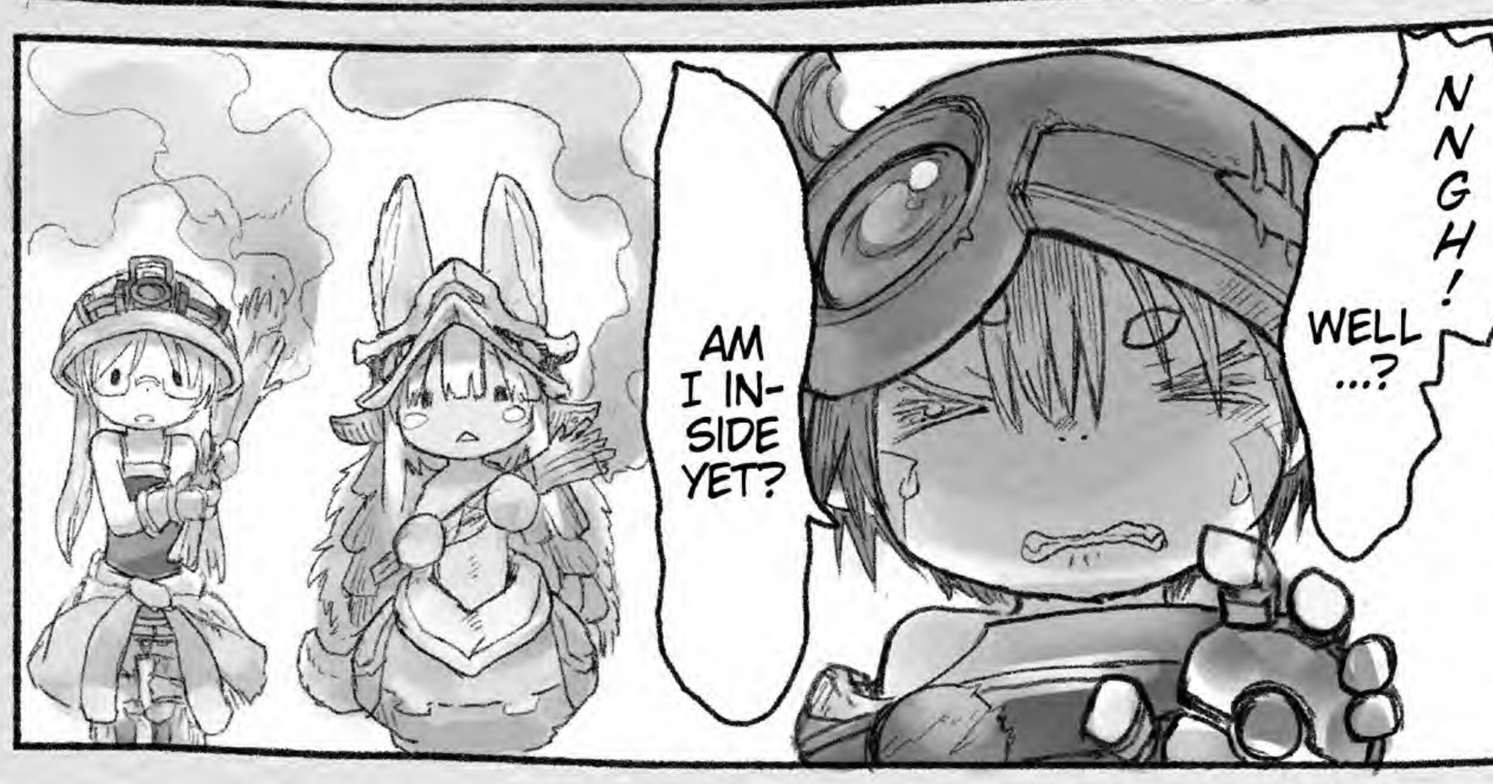
SUSO...
SO...
WEELL...
YEAH, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE IT'S COMING FROM.
IT SOUNDS KIND OF LIKE A PERSON'S VOICE, BUT...
WHAT'S WRONG...?
WHAAT?
WHAT?
?!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, NANACHI?!
RIKO, SOMEONE'S WATCHING US.
I DON'T KNOW WHO OR WHAT BUT LET'S KEEP GOING FOR NOW.
STOPPING WOULD BE DANGEROUS.

ARE THESE... HUMAN PARTS ...?
HEY... IS SOME-THING BLOCKING THE SMOKE?
COULD IT BE THE FORCE FIELD ?
WHAT DO YOU THINK ?
.....

PLEASE LET ME GO...!
I- I SUPPOSE IT'S MY TURN NOW.
UGH ...
UUGH ...
SORRY 'BOUT THIS.
EVEN THOUGH YOU SCARE EASILY.
IT LOOKS LIKE THE FORCE FIELD'S ALSO INTERRUPTED HERE, BUT...
NO.
I CAN'T SEE IT EITHER.
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS IT ...?


SHWOOMP

MEYAA...


AM I INSIDE YET?
NNGH! WELL ...?

CHINS ...

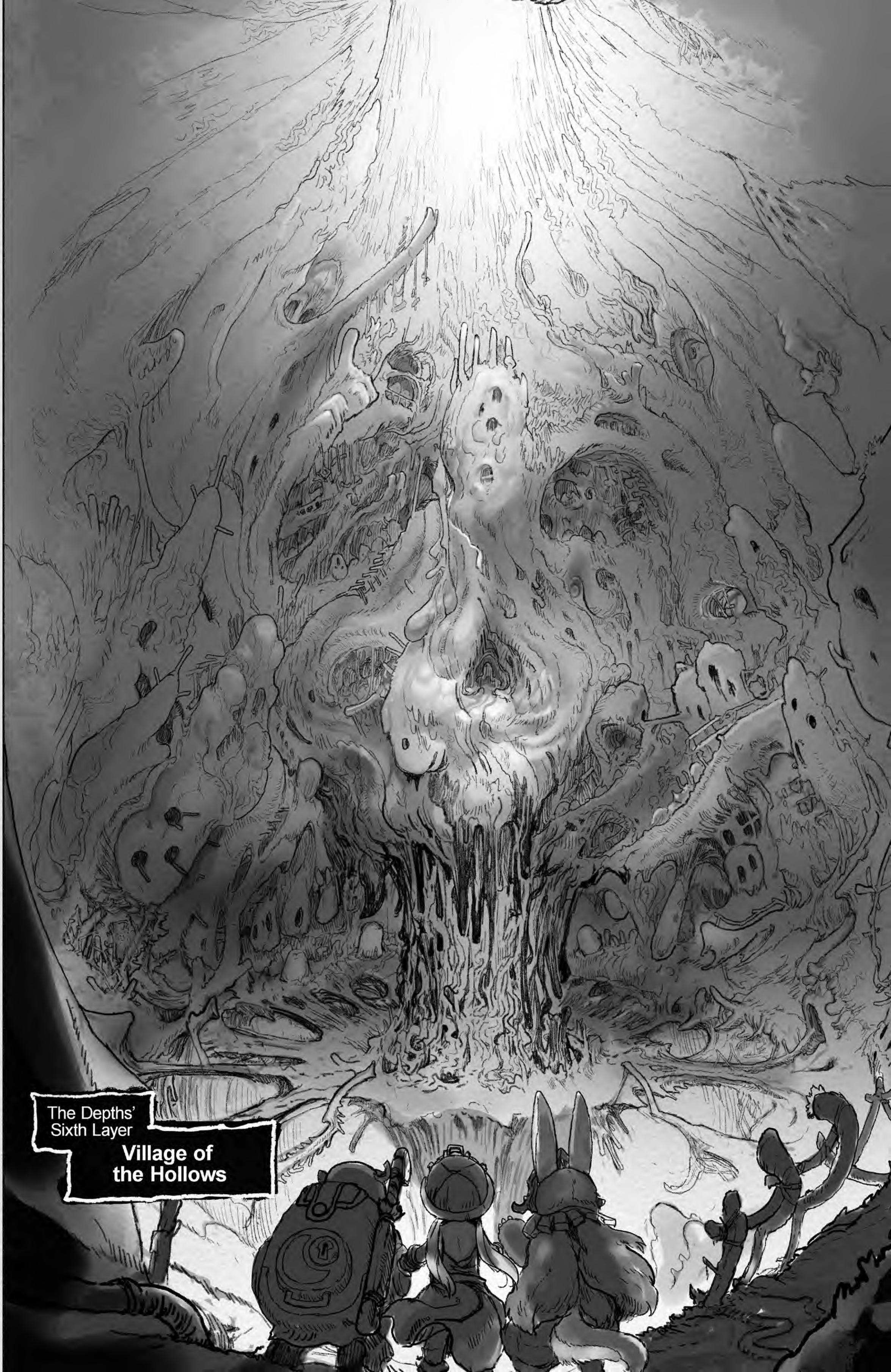
RIBS ...

WHAT COULD THIS BE...?

MNGH...

NAILS ...?

EARS ...


The Depths' Sixth Layer
Village of the Hollows

SHLUP
EN-nu...
JOLT
!!
WHO'RE... THESE GUYS ...?!

ENnu HON-dINDEbuu sosu...
KRRIII...
KRRIII...
EN-nu so-su.
WSH

WH-WHAT'S YOUR DEAL ?!!

WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS. DON'T BE HASTY, REG.

RIE ...

BROUGHT IT TO US, HUH?

YOU ALL ...

MAJI-KAJA IS MY NAME.

NICE TO MEET YOU.

SOR-RY.

IT SEEMS THAT... YOU'RE CAVE RAIDERS, TOO.

HADI-mae.

?!

"YOUR WORTH," THE LIFE-REVER-BERATING STONE... MY WHITE WHISTLE!

ARE YOU THE ONE WHO STOLE PRUSH-KA?!

HEY! WAS IT YOU?!

UBA ...

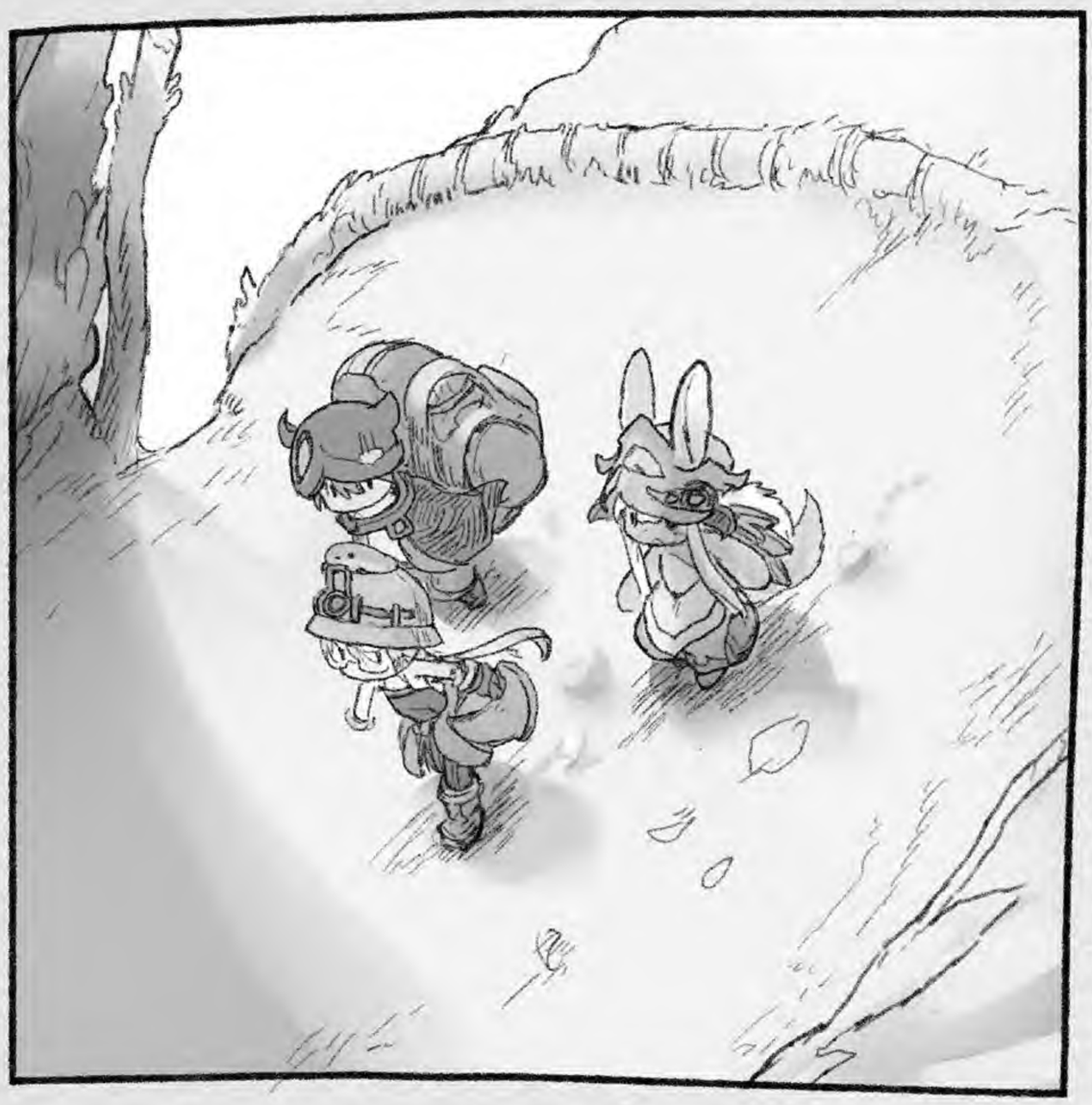
NNAA?

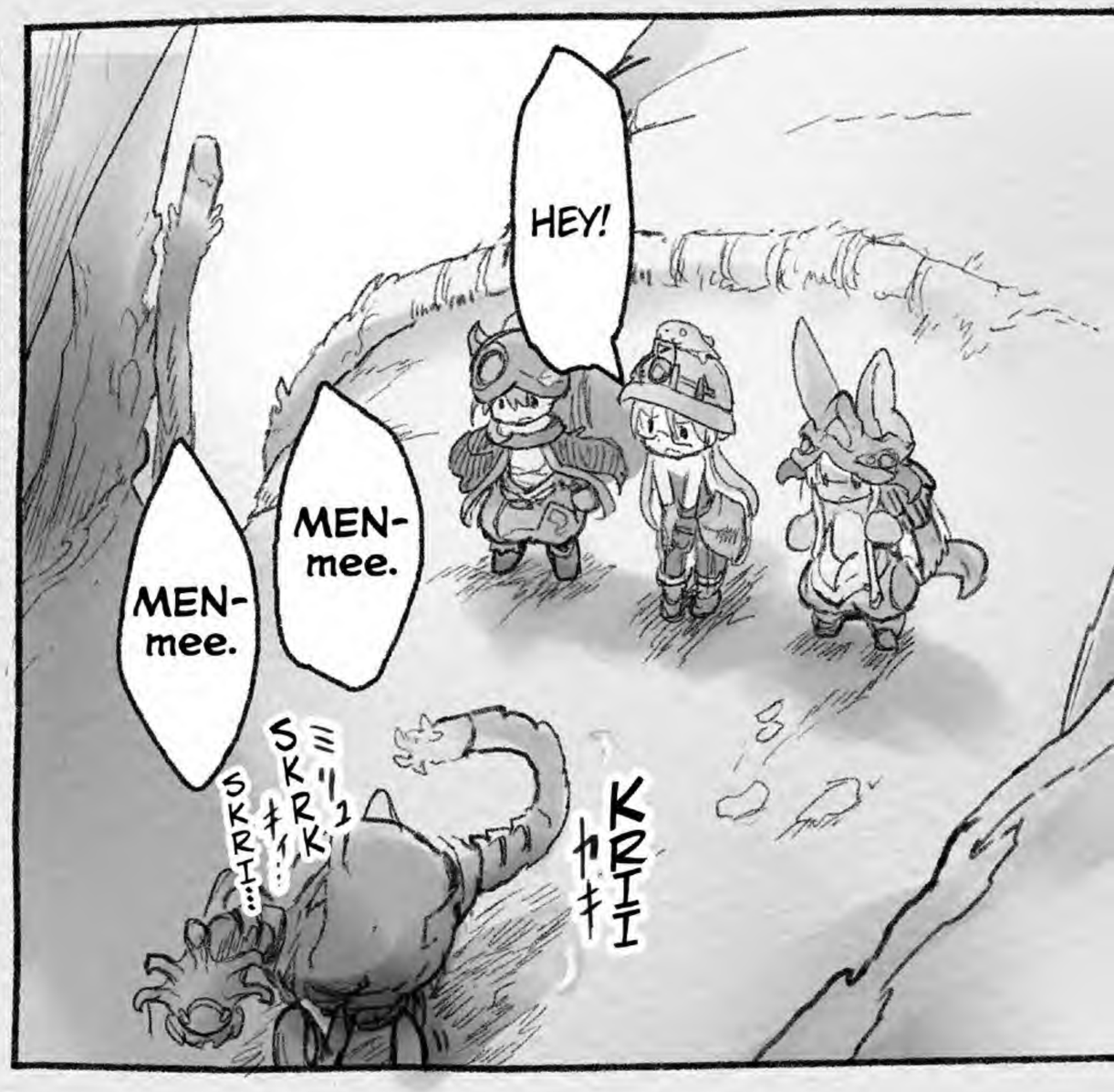
MEN... COME.

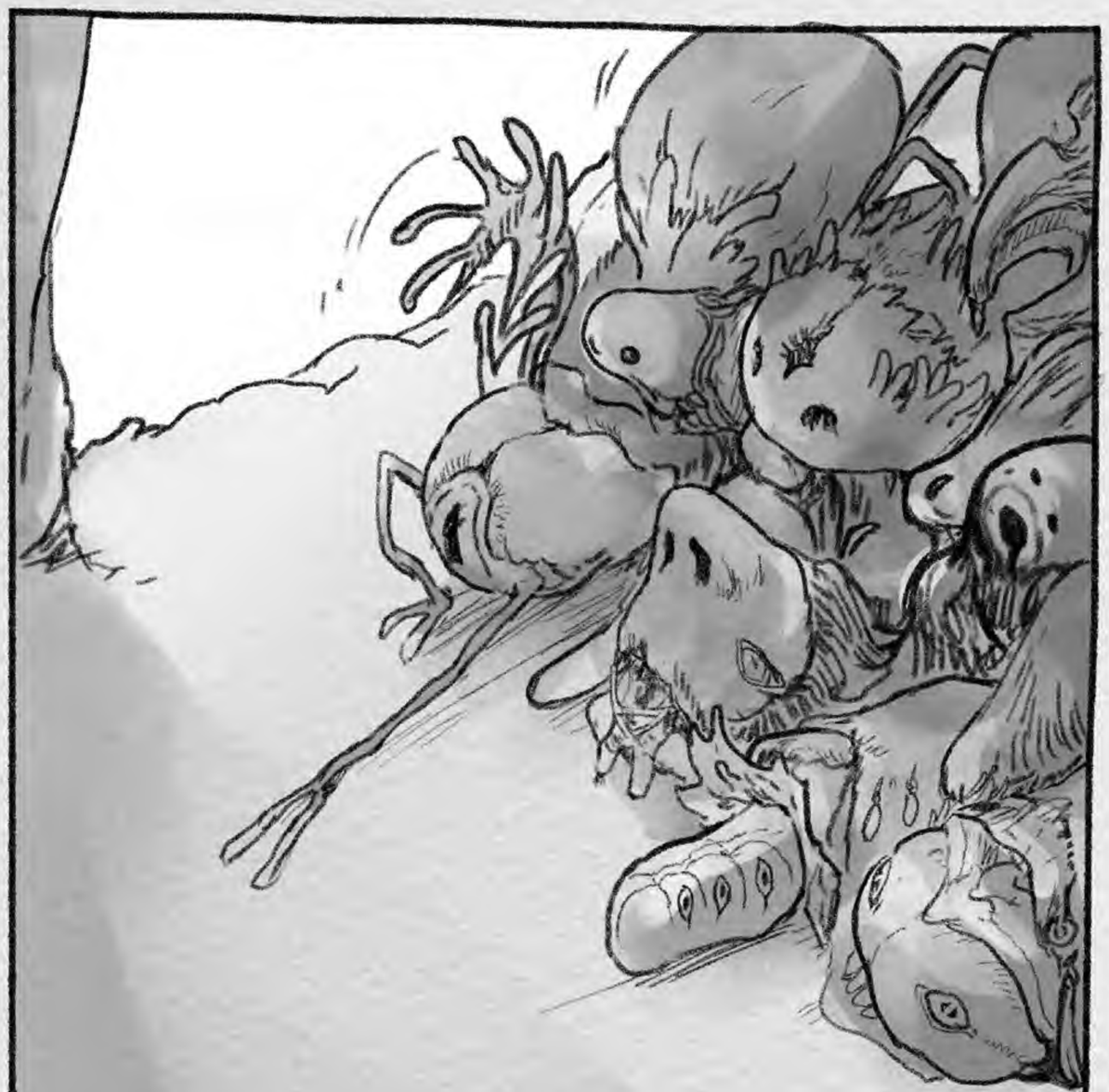
ONE WHO IS GOOD AT IT IS *DOING* THE STONE.

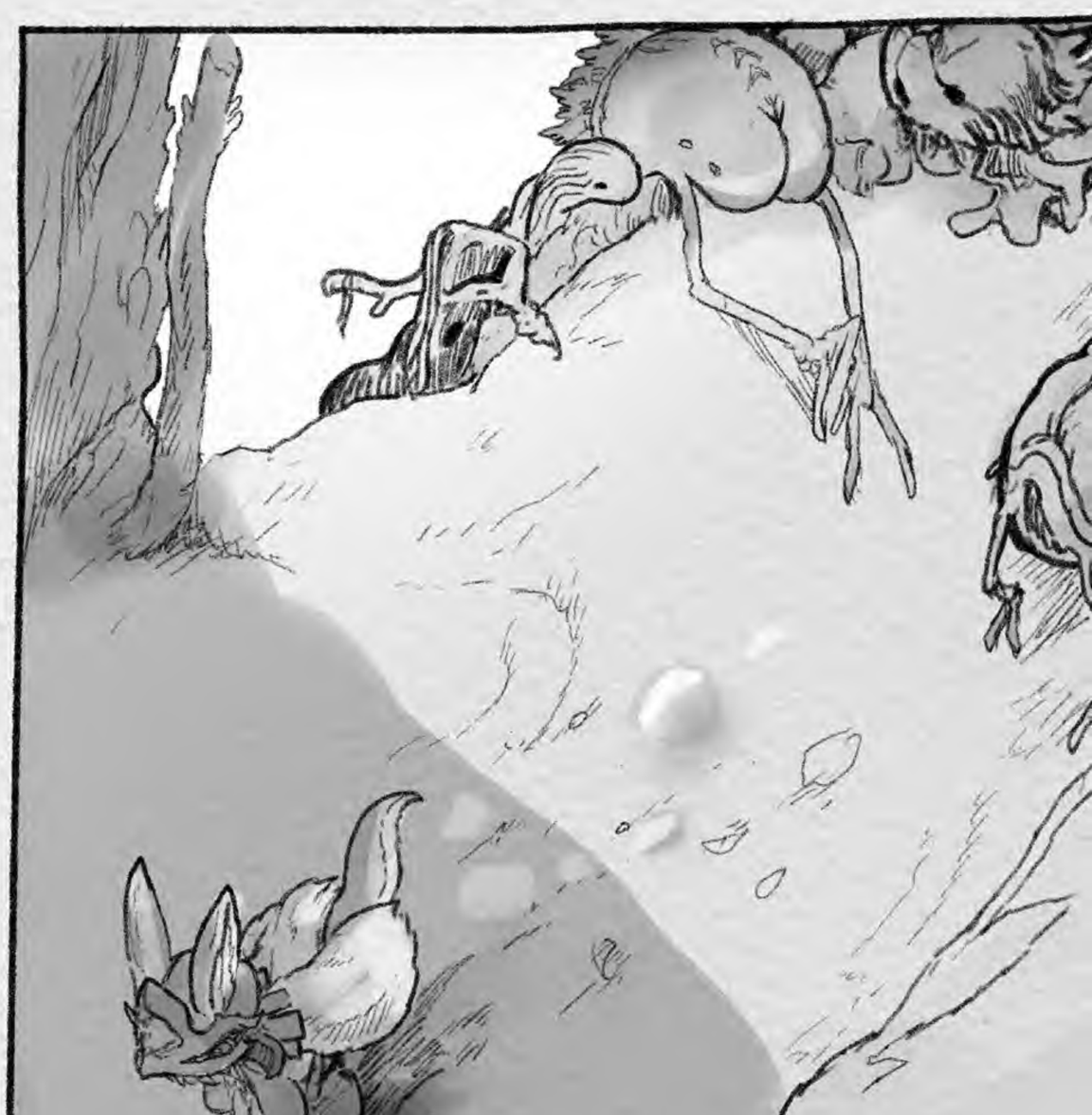
HUH...? WAIT A MINUTE ...

HADI-ma...

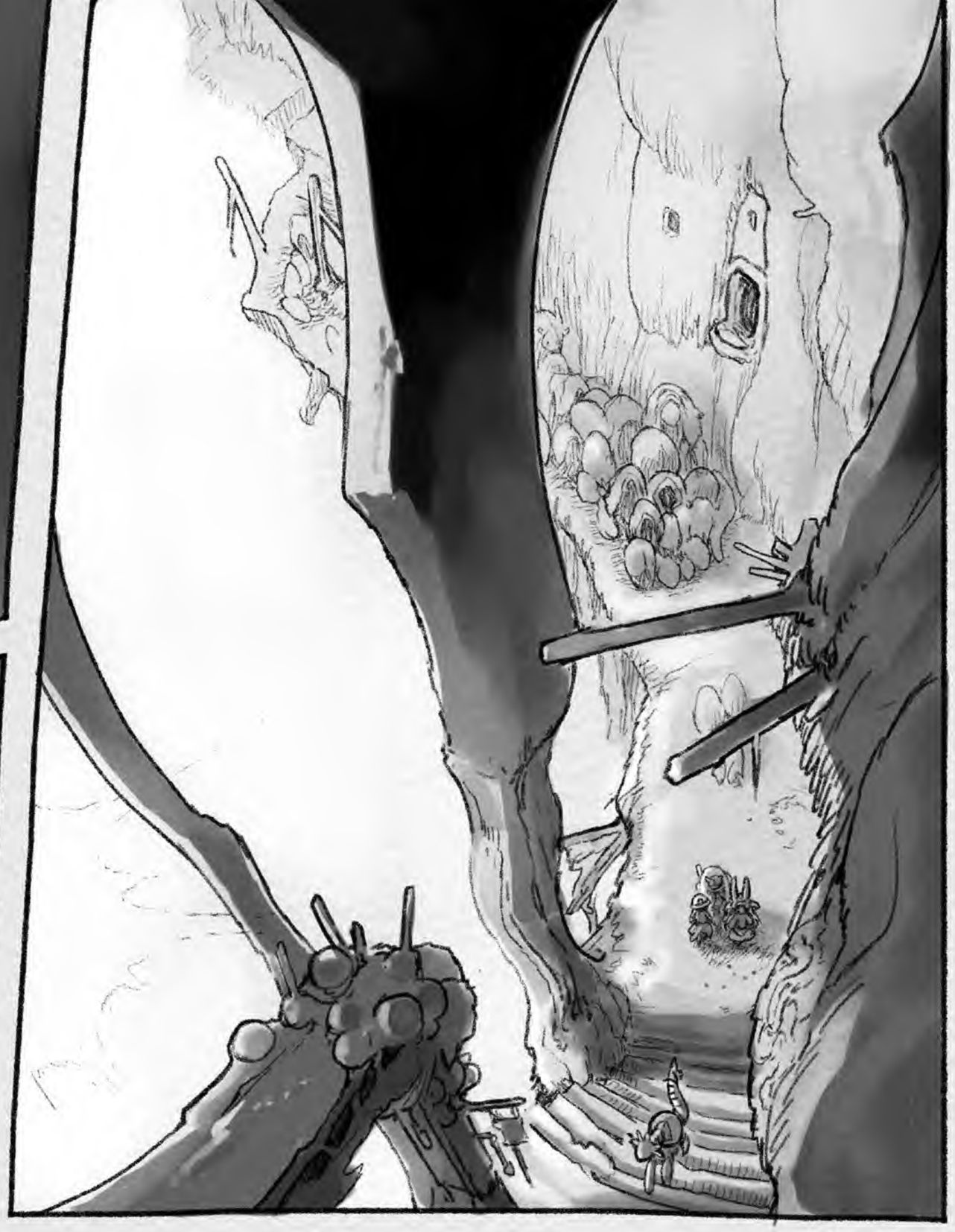








HUH?!



LET'S TRY FOLLOWING THEM. I WANNA LEARN THE TRUTH ABOUT THESE GUYS.
SO YOU WON'T GET HIT WITH THE CURSE.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT THE FORCE FIELD DOESN'T EXIST HERE.
IT'S OKAY, RIKO.

RUSTLE...
GLANCE
UNDER-STOOD.
ALSO, I CAN'T READ CONSCIOUS-NESSES HERE SINCE THERE'S NO FORCE FIELD.
REG, YOUR SENSES ARE SHARPER THAN MINE. I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO STAY VIGILANT.

BUT HAVE THEY RETAINED THEIR HUMANITY?

PROBABLY.

THEY SEEM STRANGELY INTELLIGENT.

HOLLOWS...?

HEY, NANACHI. ARE THESE GUYS...

IS THIS THAT THING THE SOVEREIGN OF DAWN WAS TALKING ABOUT? DOES IT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH "CURSES AND BLESSINGS"?!

WHO KNOWS...? BUT I HOPE THIS ISN'T THE WORK OF THOSE WHITE WHISTLES.

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT.

WE NEED TO KNOW IF WE'RE GONNA GO ANY FARTHER... THAT'S THE SENSE I GET.

WHAT IN THE WORLD *IS* IT...?

THE BODY OF THAT THING CALLING THEMSELF "MAJIKAJA."

IMIri...

IT'S HERE.

PRUSHKA!!!

!!

YOU ...

YOU LITTLE --!!

BWSH

WHOA!

REG, WAIT!!

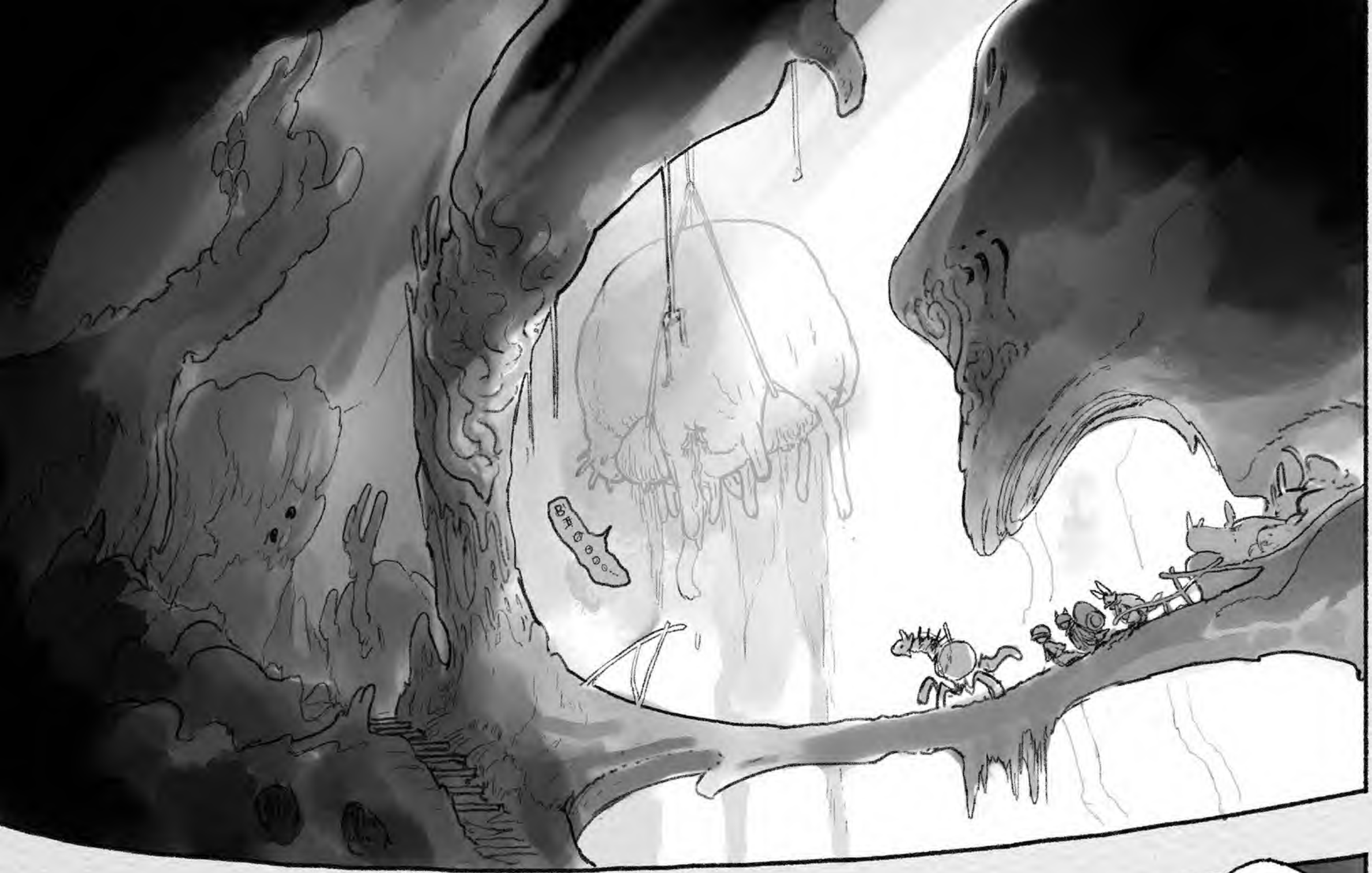
PRUSH-KA...

DOESN'T MIND IT.

BUT WHY ...?

.....

THE STONE...
THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S NOT IN ITS TRUE FORM.
MEDIBOO...
HOW DO YOU SAY IT IN THE COMMON LAN-GUAGE...?
IT GIVES SOUND TO A LIFE'S WILL.
A MUSICAL INSTRU-MENT?
THAT.
MEYAA...
WHEN THEY BECOME MUSICAL INSTRU-MENTS, STONES BECOME STRONGER AND THEIR PRECISION INCREASES.
TO POSSESS ONE WITHOUT UNDER-GOING THAT PRO-CESS...
IS NOT GOOD FOR ITS VALUE.
COME WITH ME.
KAJA WILL SHOW YOU OUR IRU-buru.



THE SAME AS THAT NICE-SMELLING FLUFFY ONE.
A HOL-LOW.

WHAT IN THE WORLD *ARE* YOU...?
HEY, MAJIKAJA WAS IT?

THIS BODY IS A **VESSEL,** YOU KNOW.
KAJA CAN-NOT SPEAK AS IS.
KAJA'S BODY IS MADE OF SMELLS.

SORRY, BUT I'M NOT SO SURE YOU'RE EVEN A LIVING CREATURE.
NNAA...?

KAJA WANTED A BODY...

NOT A VESSEL.

WOW !!

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?!

IT'S JUST LIKE A MARKET ...!

YES, A MAR-KET.

A MAR-KET-PLACE OF VALUE.

THINGS AND NOT-THINGS CAN BE BAR-TERED BASED ON VALUE.

THE UNIT OF CURRENCY? IT'S NOT ORTH.

THIS ONE HAS AN ANTI-QUATED SHAPE... MUST BE FROM A REALLY LONG TIME AGO.

I WON-DER WHEN, EXACTLY.

REG, NANACHI--LOOK! THESE ARE THE BELONGINGS OF CAVE RAIDERS!

THEY'RE ALL IN REALLY GOOD CONDITION.

?!

NO WAY.

A SECTION FROM MOTHER'S LETTER?!

ISN'T THIS...

!!

APpUAAANN!

WITH-OUT PER-MIS-SION ...

YOU MUST NOT TOUCH THAT WHICH HAS VALUE.

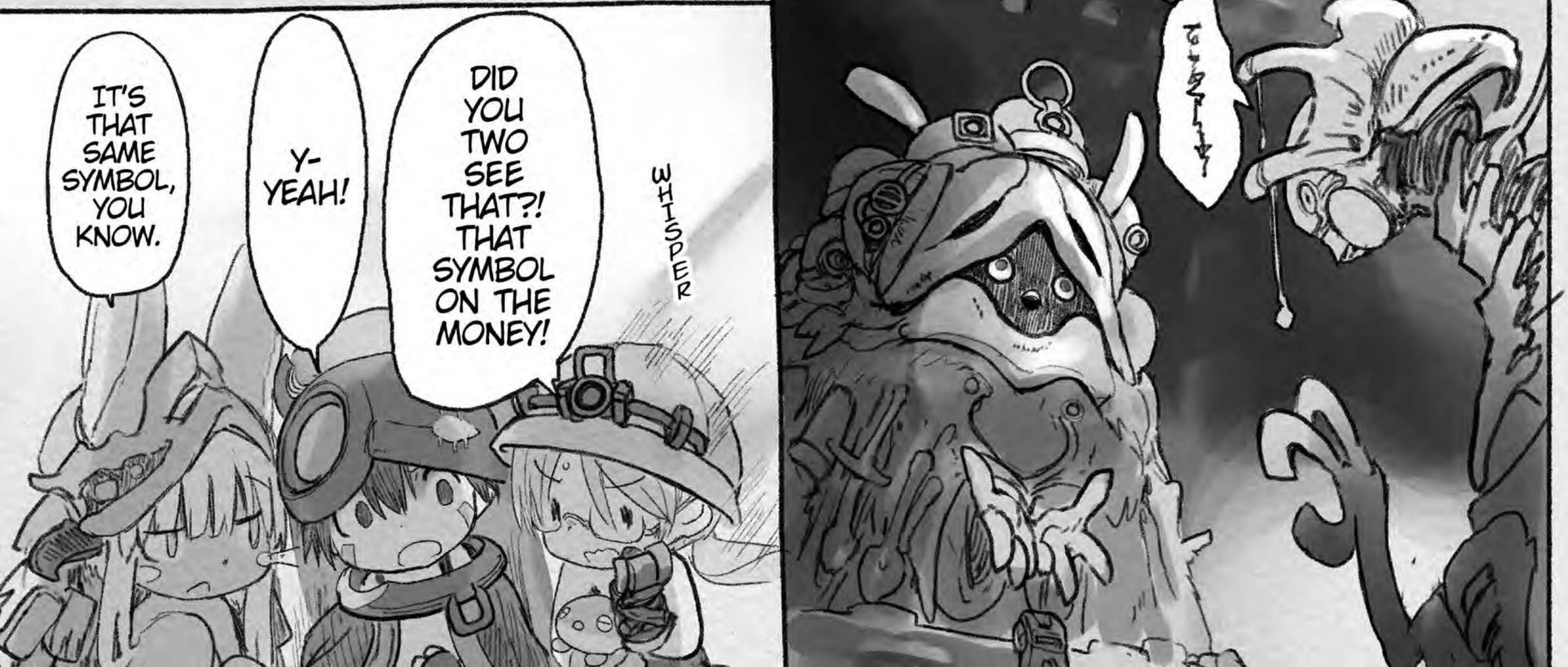
UMM... MAJI-KAJA ?!
I WANT THIS!!
HOW CAN I BUY IT?!
SOMEONE LIKE YOU CAN BUY ANYTHING. JUST CHANGE INTO VALUE.
TH-THEN, WHICH OF MY THINGS CAN I TRADE...? LET'S SEE--

NO, YOU YOUR-SELF.
YOU WOULD FETCH A VERY GOOD VALUE.
FOR IN-STANCE, YOUR EYES, OR SKIN, OR FAT.
HUMAN CHILDREN HAVE THE MOST VALUE.
KAJA ALSO WANTS ONE IF IT'S WHOLE.
BEFORE YOU SELL TO SOME-ONE ELSE, PLEASE--

WHAT A SHAME.
KAJA'LL GIVE UP, THEN ...
STEALING VALUE IS THE GRAVEST OF CRIMES.

I'M NOT FOR SALE! I'M GOING TO THE BOTTOM OF THE NETHER-WORLD!
WAIT!

CAN I BUY IT WITH MY HAIR OR NAIL CLIPPINGS OR SOME-THING...?
WELL, I WON'T GIVE UP.


IT'S THAT SAME SYMBOL, YOU KNOW.
Y-YEAH!
DID YOU TWO SEE THAT?! THAT SYMBOL ON THE MONEY!
WHISPER
ちょっと

GOOD ONE, REG. YOU'RE GETTING USED TO ENEMY TERRITORY NOW, AREN'T YOU?

AFTER ALL, THE ISSUE OF WHO TOOK PRUSHKA GOT SIDE-STEPP-ED...

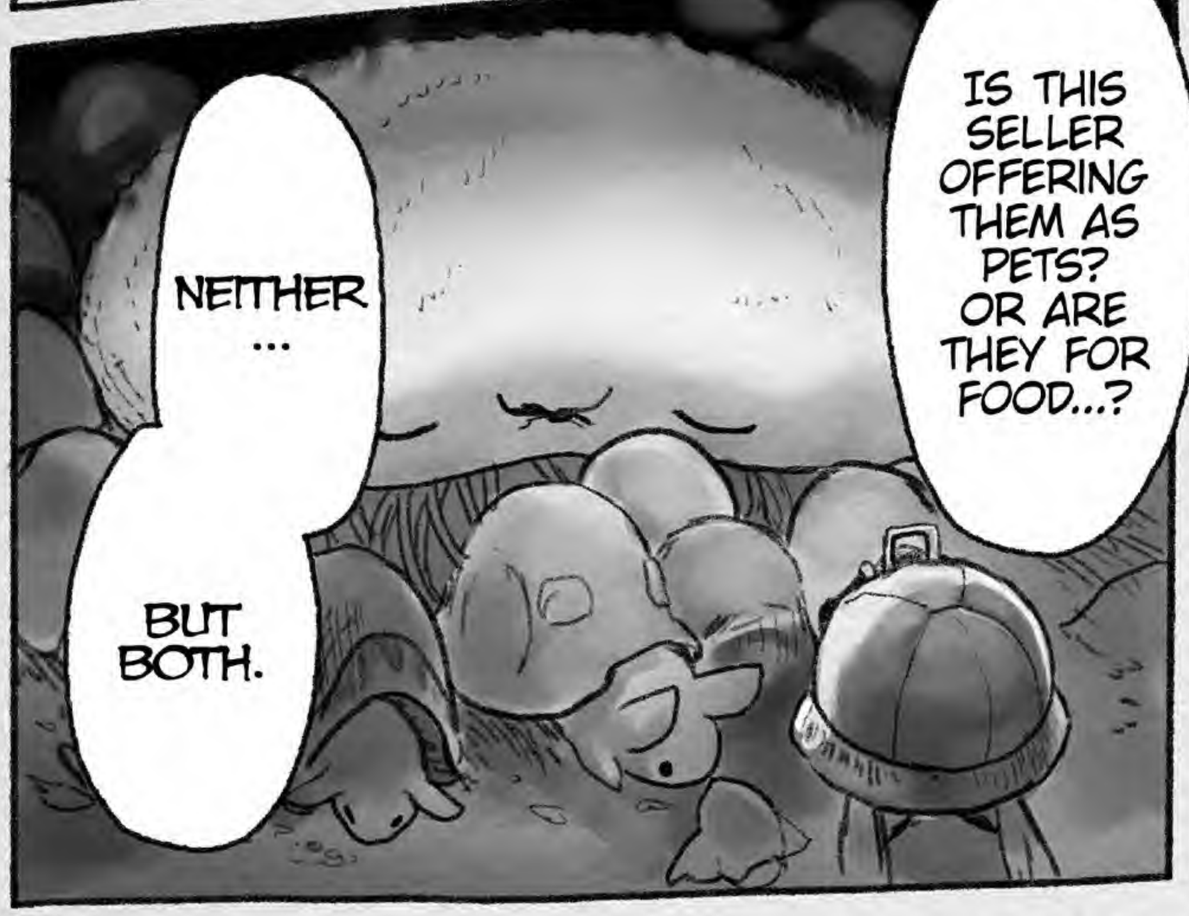
BY ACTING LIKE WE'RE INTER-ESTED IN EVERY-THING HERE?

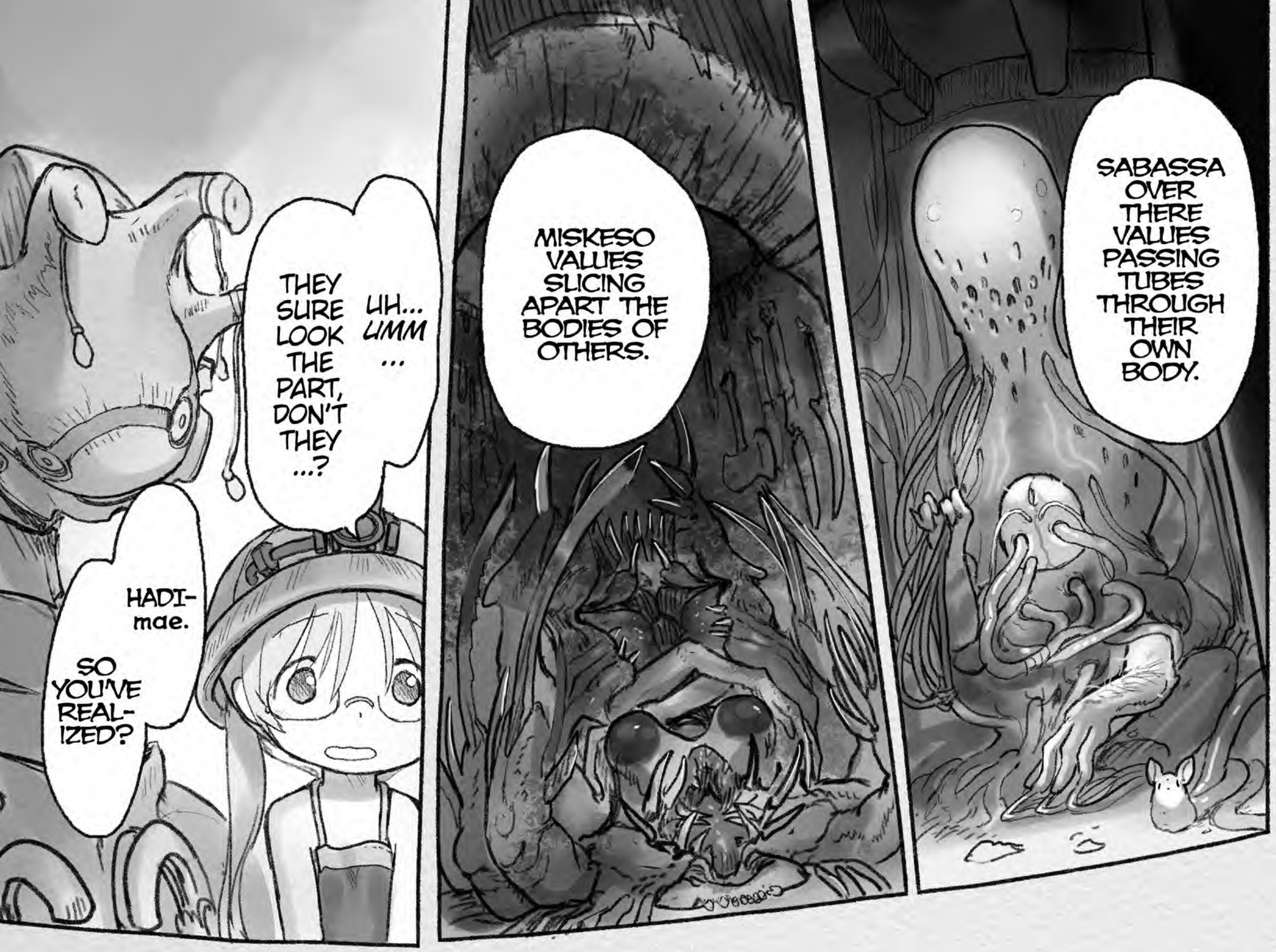
SHOULD WE TRY TO GET SOME INFO OUT OF THEM...

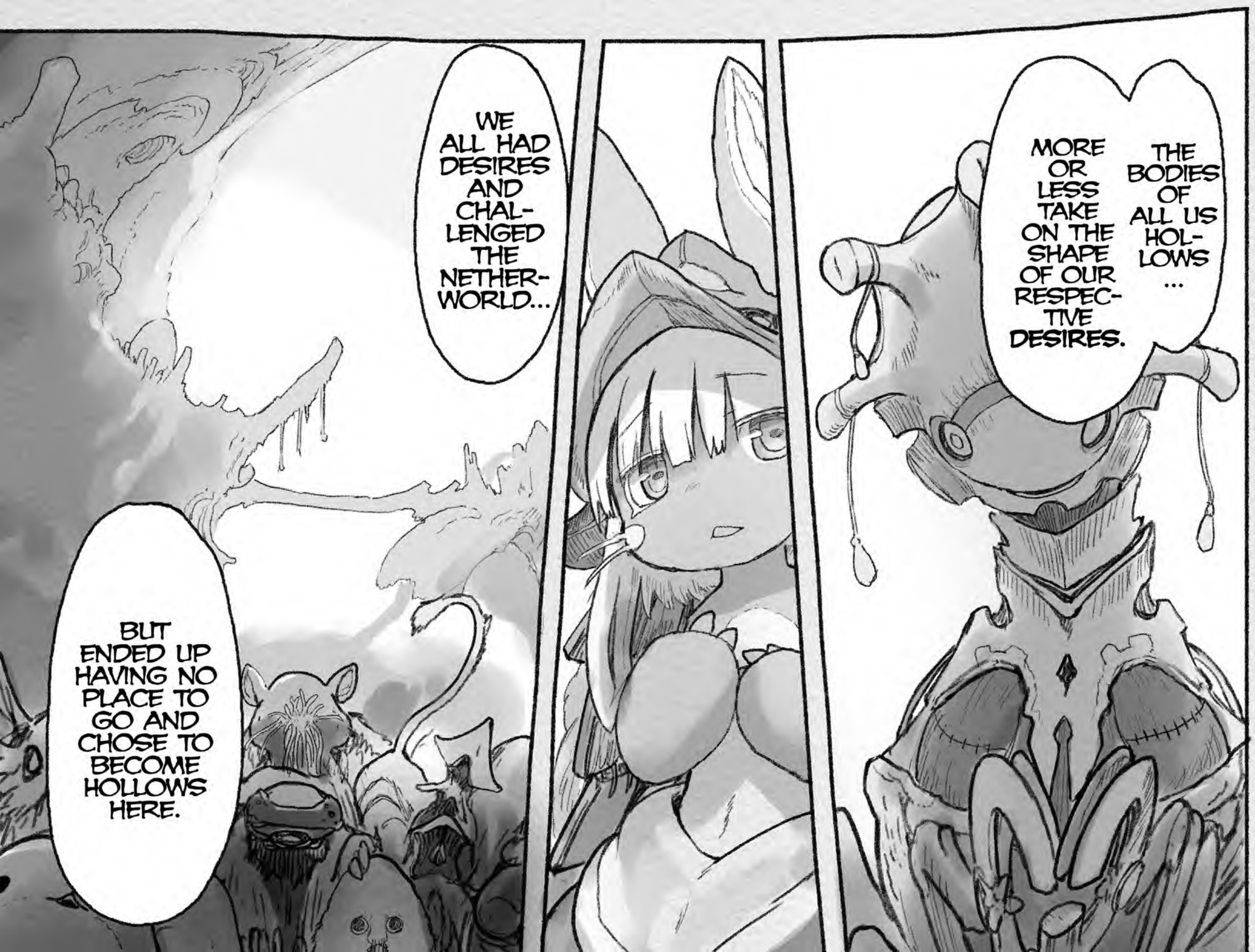
HMM ...

KNOW ABOUT THAT NOTE, THEN.

MAYBE MAJIKAJA DOESN'T ACTUALLY ...




THEY SURE LOOK THE PART, DON'T THEY ...?
UH... UMM ...
HADI-mae.
SO YOU'VE REAL-IZED?
MISKESO VALUES SLICING APART THE BODIES OF OTHERS.
SABASSA OVER THERE VALUES PASSING TUBES THROUGH THEIR OWN BODY.


WE ALL HAD DESIRES AND CHAL-LENGED THE NETHER-WORLD...
BUT ENDED UP HAVING NO PLACE TO GO AND CHOSE TO BECOME HOLLOWS HERE.
MORE OR LESS TAKE ON THE SHAPE OF OUR RESPEC-TIVE DESIRES.
THE BODIES OF ALL US HOL-LOWS ...

NICE-SMELLING FLUFFY ONE...

UNLIKE US HERE, YOU'RE A HOLLOW FROM THE OLD RITUAL SITE, AREN'T YOU?

WE RECEIVE PROTECTION AND A BODY IN LINE WITH OUR DESIRES.

BUT IN EXCHANGE ...

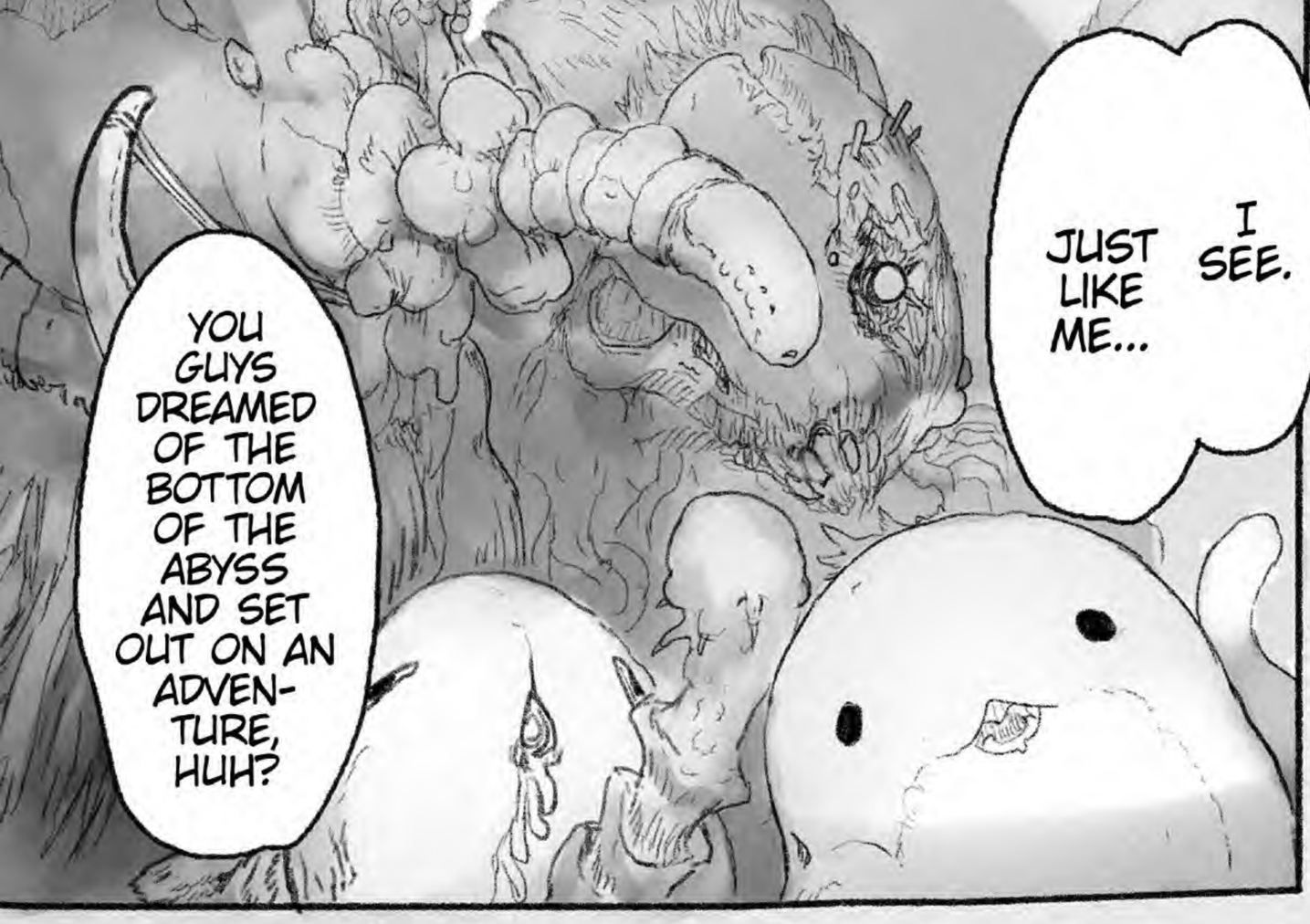
WHEN WE OFFER UP OUR LIVES HERE AND TURN INTO HOLLOWS, WE BECOME **BOUND** TO THIS PLACE AND CANNOT LEAVE IT.

YOU HAVE A REAL LIFE.

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN PROTECTED BY A VERY, *VERY* POWERFUL DESIRE.

IT IS OF WONDERFUL VALUE.

WEEEELL...


YOU GUYS DREAMED OF THE BOTTOM OF THE ABYSS AND SET OUT ON AN ADVEN-TURE, HUH?
JUST LIKE ME...
I SEE.

WHOA!

I CAN'T STAY HERE...
BUT IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.

PLAY NICE, OKAY?
THAT'S MEINYA.

MEYAA.
maaaa!

THAT TICK-LES ...!
H-HEY ...!

COME ON, CUT IT OUT ...!
AH ...
HAHAHAHA!!!
ST...
STOP ...!
HAVE A TASTE OF YOUR OWN MEDICINE FOR ONCE...

AH?!
MEINYA ...!
NO!
DON'T TAKE MEINYA AWAY FROM ME!

MEYA!

MEYA!

DON'T BE SO ROUGH WITH MEINYA!!

NO!!

LET ME THROUGH!!

SHPLURT

チュ

DISTANT CHARACTERS: PART 2

ORTH, EAST DISTRICT

A CONVERSATION BETWEEN SIBLINGS IN THE EXHIBITION HALL OF CAVE-RAIDING HISTORY.

◇ HEY, SHERUMI.
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

◆ IT'S A PICTOGRAPH COMPOSED OF SIXTY PERCENT "SEEMS LIKE A LIE BUT IS TRUE" AND ABOUT FORTY PERCENT "DEEP EMOTION." ITS READING IS "INDEBU."

◇ SEEMS LIKE YOU COULD MAKE THESE YOURSELF AS LONG AS YOU KNOW THEIR MEANINGS, DOESN'T IT?

◆ THEY SAY THE GRAMMAR IS DIFFERENT FROM THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE'S. YOU'D HAVE TO STUDY IT, YOU KNOW.

◇ HEY, THEN...HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?

◆ IT MEANS SOMETHING LIKE "AH" OR "WHOOPS." YOU PRONOUNCE IT "HADIMAE." IT ALSO REPRESENTS AN EXCLAMATION POINT.

◇ SHERUMI, WHAT ABOUT THIS ONE? THIS ONE HERE.

◆ THIS ONE...SEEMS TO HAVE A COMPLICATED MEANING THAT IS NOT YET UNDERSTOOD. ITS READING IS "IRUBURU."

◆ THESE CHARACTERS ARE SEEMINGLY UNLIMITED IN NUMBER AND NEW KINDS ARE STILL BEING FOUND. THEY'RE CONSIDERED SEPARATE FROM THE "NETHERWORLD CHARACTERS... NETHER GLYPHS" THAT WE USE. THEY CALL THEM "DISTANT CHARACTERS" OR "BEYOND GLYPHS."

◇ *HMM...* BY THE TIME WE'RE GROWN UP, I WONDER IF THE MEANING OF "IRUBURU" WILL BE KNOWN.

maaa?
Hello Abyss
41
The Balancing of Values
ちゅぷ

NO...!

MEINYAAA...!

LUNGE

SHOW ME!

SOB

SOB

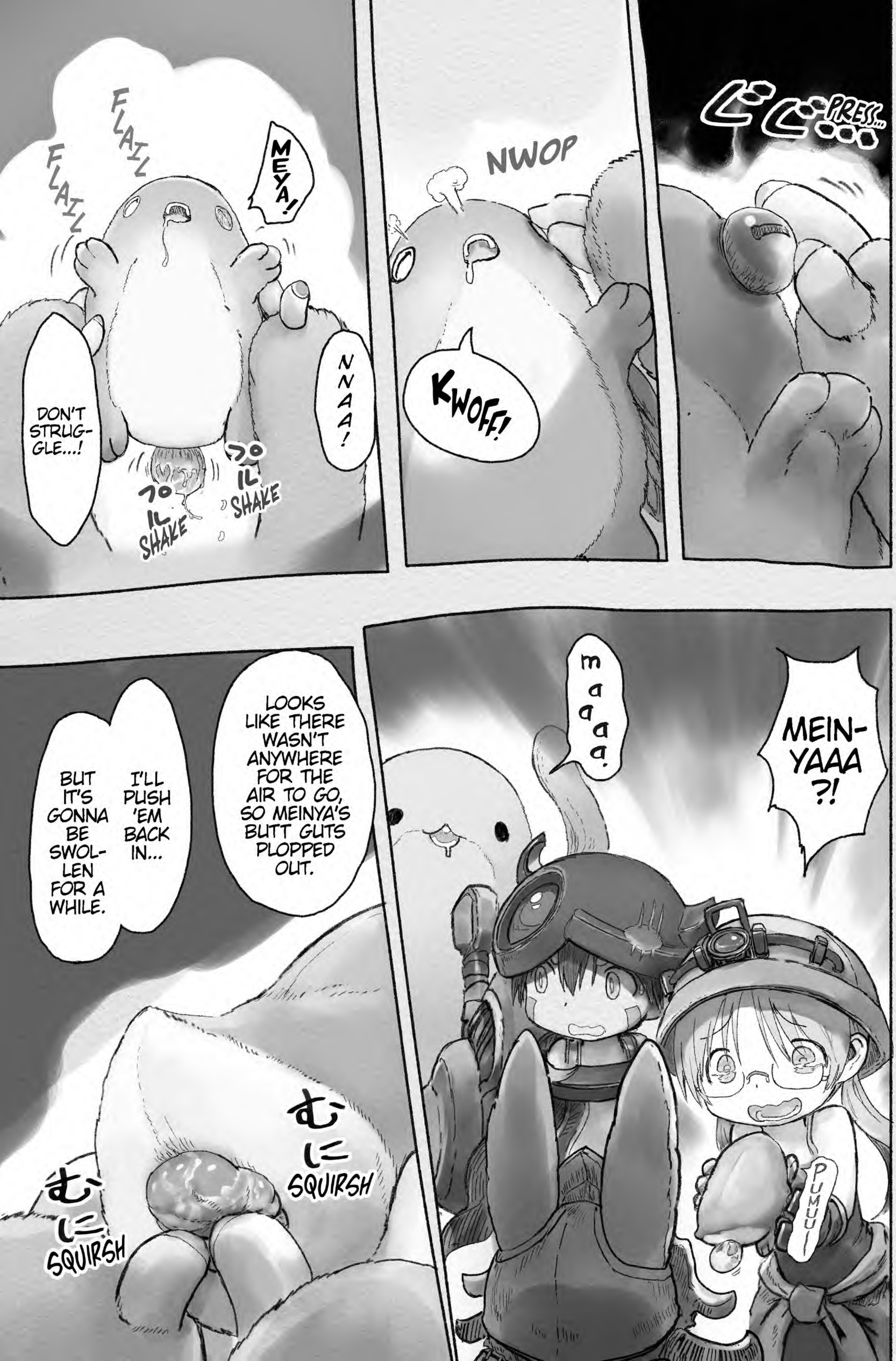
I SAID OUT-TA MY WAY!

HEY, GET OUT-TA MY WAY!

THE BONES ARE SO SOFT...

NNAA... WHAT'S WITH THIS?

OOZE...


FLAIL
FLAIL
MEYA!
DON'T STRUG-GLE...!
NNAA!
ぷる SHAKE
ぷる SHAKE
NWOP
KWOFF!
ぐぐ PRESS...
LOOKS LIKE THERE WASN'T ANYWHERE FOR THE AIR TO GO, SO MEINYA'S BUTT GUTS PLOPPED OUT.
BUT IT'S GONNA BE SWOL-LEN FOR A WHILE.
I'LL PUSH 'EM BACK IN...
むに SQUIRSH
むに SQUIRSH
maaaa.
MEIN-YAAA ?!
PUMUU!

KEFU...
WHAT IS ITS VALUE?
M...
MEINYA'S NOT THAT KINDA THING!!
IS IT SO HIGH YOU...
THAT'S RIGHT!!
CAN'T DETER-MINE IT?

OOOON

AH.

THE BALANCING BEGINS.

EVI-mi-HAKU...

KEFE-ri-KEFU.

BWOOOO

ma.

maaaa!

SHOOO

OOOM

ma!
ZUN

maaaa!
WHAT ...
IS THAT ...?
maaaaa!
THAT ONE ...
CAUSED DAMAGE TO A VALUE THAT EXCEEDS THEIR OWN.
IT MUST BE BAL- ANCED.
THINGS THEY SAVED UP. THINGS THEY HID.
maaaa!
THE BALANCING WILL NOT END UNTIL THE VALUES ACHIEVE EQUILIB- RIUM.
maaaaaa!

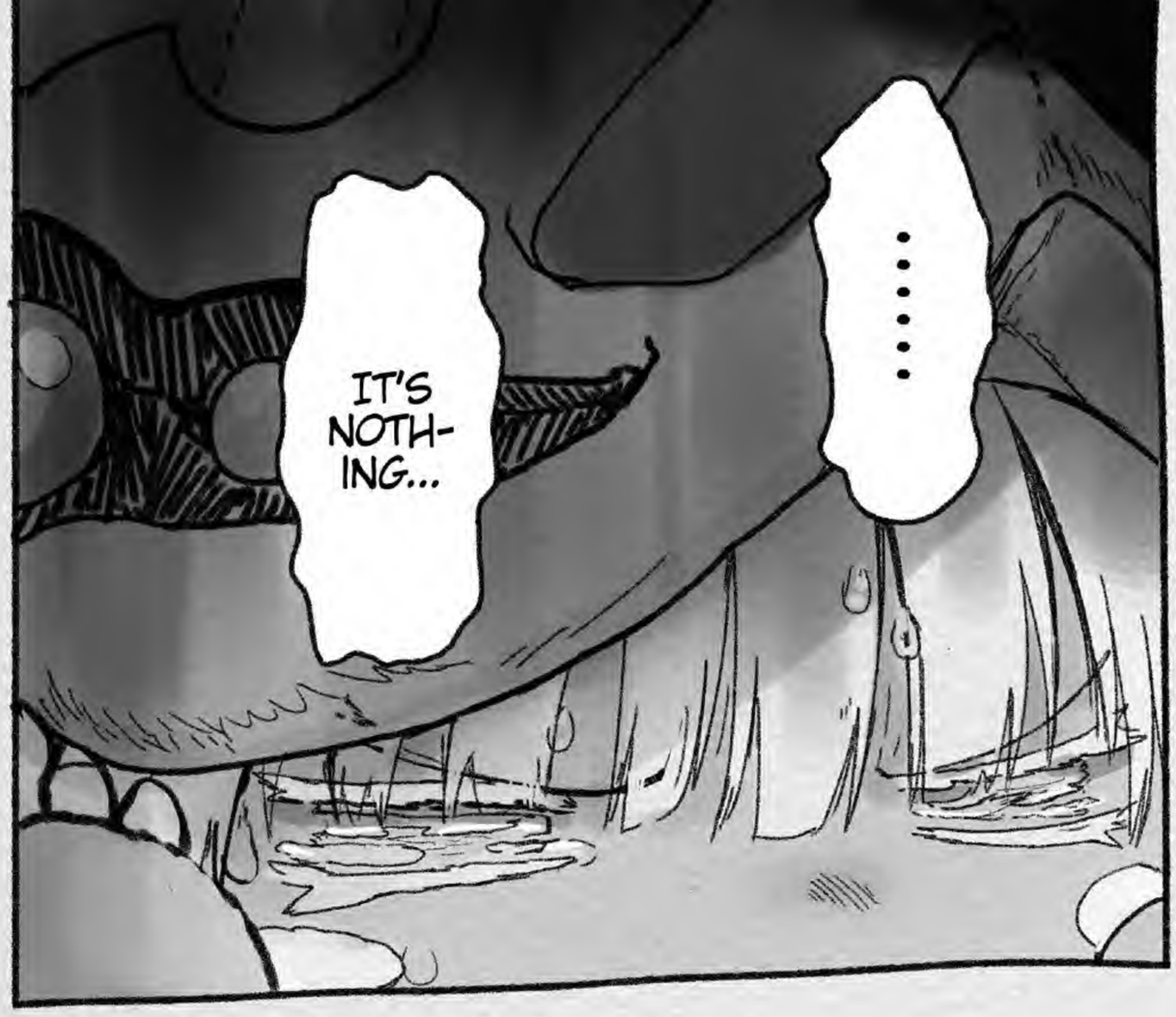
aaa!
パチン
PA-CHIN

maa!
BECHI
maa!
BECHI
ma.
a...

maa!
a!

ah...
きFWPよ
きFWPよ

ふわ
CHING
ふわ
CHING
ma...
SHUDDER
ふる
SHUDDER
ふる
SHUDDER
ふる
aaaaa!
dadada
...


IT'S NOTH-ING...
.....

NANA-CHI.
ARE YOU OKAY ...?
WELL...

maaaaa
maaaaa

IRU-buru... THE VILLAGE UNDER-STANDS THE DESIRES OF ITS INHABI-TANTS.
AN UN-DESIRED THING THAT HAS NO BUYERS IS TRANS-FORMED TO A LOW VALUE.

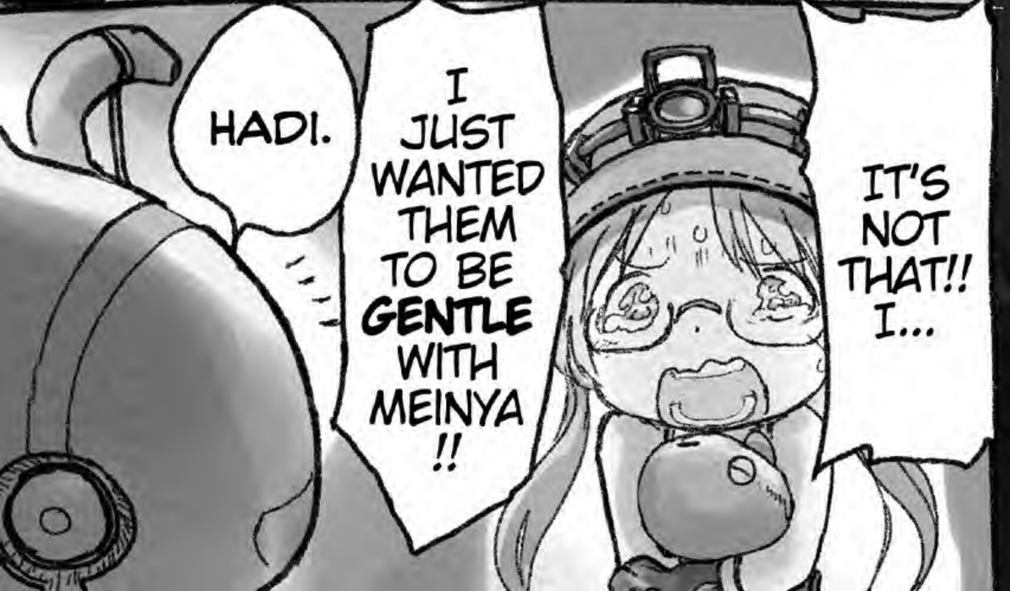
UNGH...
THINGS THAT ARE CHANGED INTO VALUE ARE LOST FOREVER.
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT, SO WE ALL ABIDE BY THE PROTEC-TION.

IRU-buru... THE PROTECTION OF THE VILLAGE IS SO STRONG THAT KAJA CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

OR...

CAN'T YOU MAKE IT STOP...?

HEY, I-- THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME FEEL ANY BETTER, YOU KNOW!



BLURCH
ヒッ
A!!

mama!!
ミチ
MLRCH
ミチ
MLRCH

THE SHORT-FALL IS MADE UP FOR WITH THE BODY.
THERE ARE LOTS OF BUYERS FOR BODIES.
THERE ARE ALSO THOSE WHO VALUE KNOWING WHAT'S INSIDE.

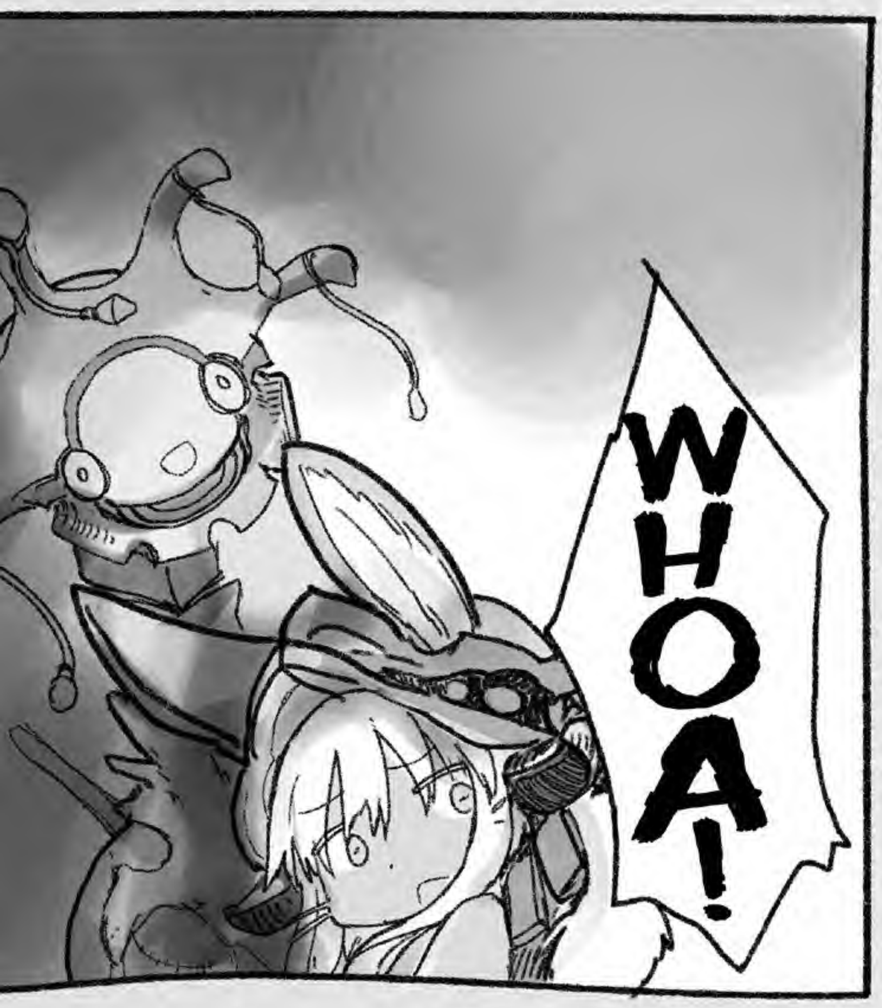
WELL...
IF STEALING VALUE'S A CRIME...
HOW DO YOU JUSTIFY WHAT HAPPENED WITH PRUSHKA?

THINGS THAT HAPPEN OUTSIDE OF HERE AREN'T PROTECTED BY THE POWER OF THE VILLAGE.

THAT STONE WAS BROUGHT IN FROM OUTSIDE OF IRUburu.

カチ CLACK

カチ CLACK



I... UH...

DO I HAVE TO TAKE THIS ...?

THAT'S YOURS. IT'S FINALLY REACHED THE AMOUNT OF YOUR DAMAGED VALUE.

maaa...

THE VALUE IS BOUND TO YOU.

EVEN IF YOU THROW IT AWAY, IT WON'T BE DIS-CARD-ED.

maeN?

EVERY-ONE NOW KNOWS YOUR VALUE AFTER WHAT JUST HAPPEN-ED.

KAJA THINKS NO ONE WILL COME HURT YOU.

KAJA WILL GO PASS THE BODY THROUGH.

HADI-mae ...

SEE YOU LAT-ER.

HUH ...?! WAIT!

YOU'LL NOT WANT FOR HUMAN FOOD OR A PLACE TO SLEEP...

HOW DO I PUT IT...?

HANI-isuku HADI...

WITH THAT MUCH ...

WELL, THIS IS TROUBLE-SOME...

.....

madimo.

LODGING... UMM, DO YOU KNOW A PLACE WE COULD STAY?

modima.

madimo.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR LODGING.

HANI-ISUKU...

modi...

HANI-ISUKU?

HANI!

THERE'S POOP DOWN THERE, YOU KNOW!

HANI-ISUKU!

THEY UNDER-STOOD?

O-OH?

El-bu-MEN-mee.

KON-bosu!

I SEE!

HANI-ISUKU.

WHEN TALKING ABOUT FOOD AND A PLACE TO SLEEP.

EARLIER, MAJI-KAJA SAID THAT WORD...

RIKO... HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT?

IT'S IMPOR-TANT TO KEEP **CALM** AND MAKE YOURSELF UNDER-STOOD.

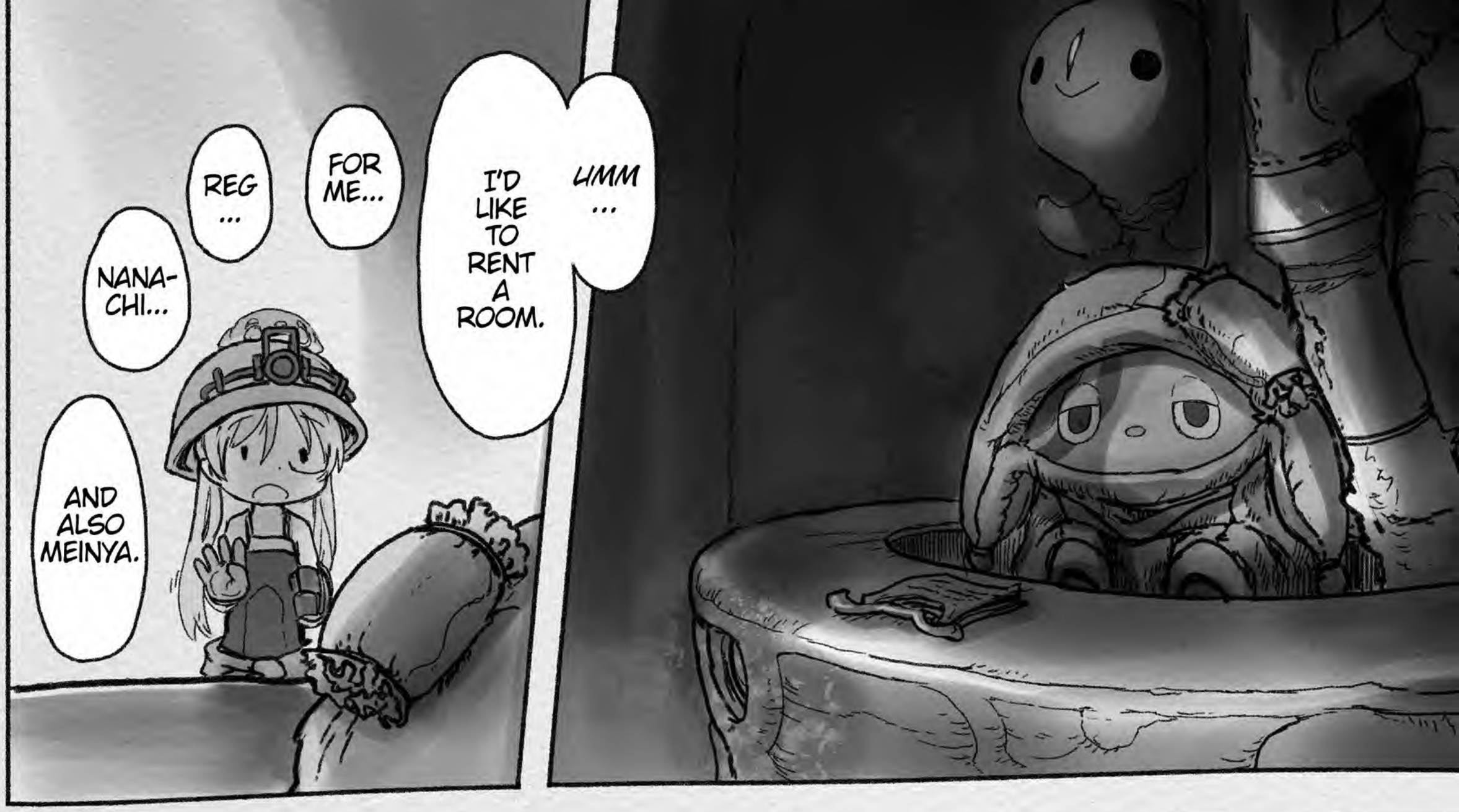
AT TIMES LIKE THIS, EVEN IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE LAN-GUAGE ...

THAT'S PART OF IT, BUT...

WHEN IT COMES TO STUFF ABOUT THE ABYSS, RIKO'S GOT A GREAT **HEAD** ON HER SHOUL-DERS.

YOU'RE PRETTY AMAZING, YOU KNOW THAT? THAT LANGUAGE IS DIFFI-CULT TO DECIPHER, YET...

I... WASN'T THAT GOOD AT IT, THOUGH!
ALSO ... OUR ORPHANAGE DOES TOUR GUIDING, YOU KNOW!
MOST LIKELY, SHE JUST CAN'T CONTAIN HER EXCITEMENT.
YEAH ...
MAYBE MORE THAN ANYONE, SHE UNDERSTANDS THAT WE CAN'T LET OURSELVES GET DOWN AT A TIME LIKE THIS.
WE WITNESSED SOMETHING TERRIBLE, BUT YOU KNOW...
MEN-mee.


NANA-CHI...
REG ...
FOR ME...
I'D LIKE TO RENT A ROOM.
UMM ...
AND ALSO MEINYA.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH IT IS...
UH...

SHFF ...

DON'T SAY THAT. AFTER ALL, WE NEED A SAFE PLACE TO TREAT MEINYA.
I FEEL BAD USING THIS MONEY...
YEAH ...

AND SOME FOOD, TOO...
SHFF ...

Features strange lighting.

SO THIS IS THE INN!

OOH ...

Just one large bed.

Even more insects flying around.

THIS IS...

FOOD ?!

A dish called "KUBEKYASASU" in their language.

Lots of insects flying around.

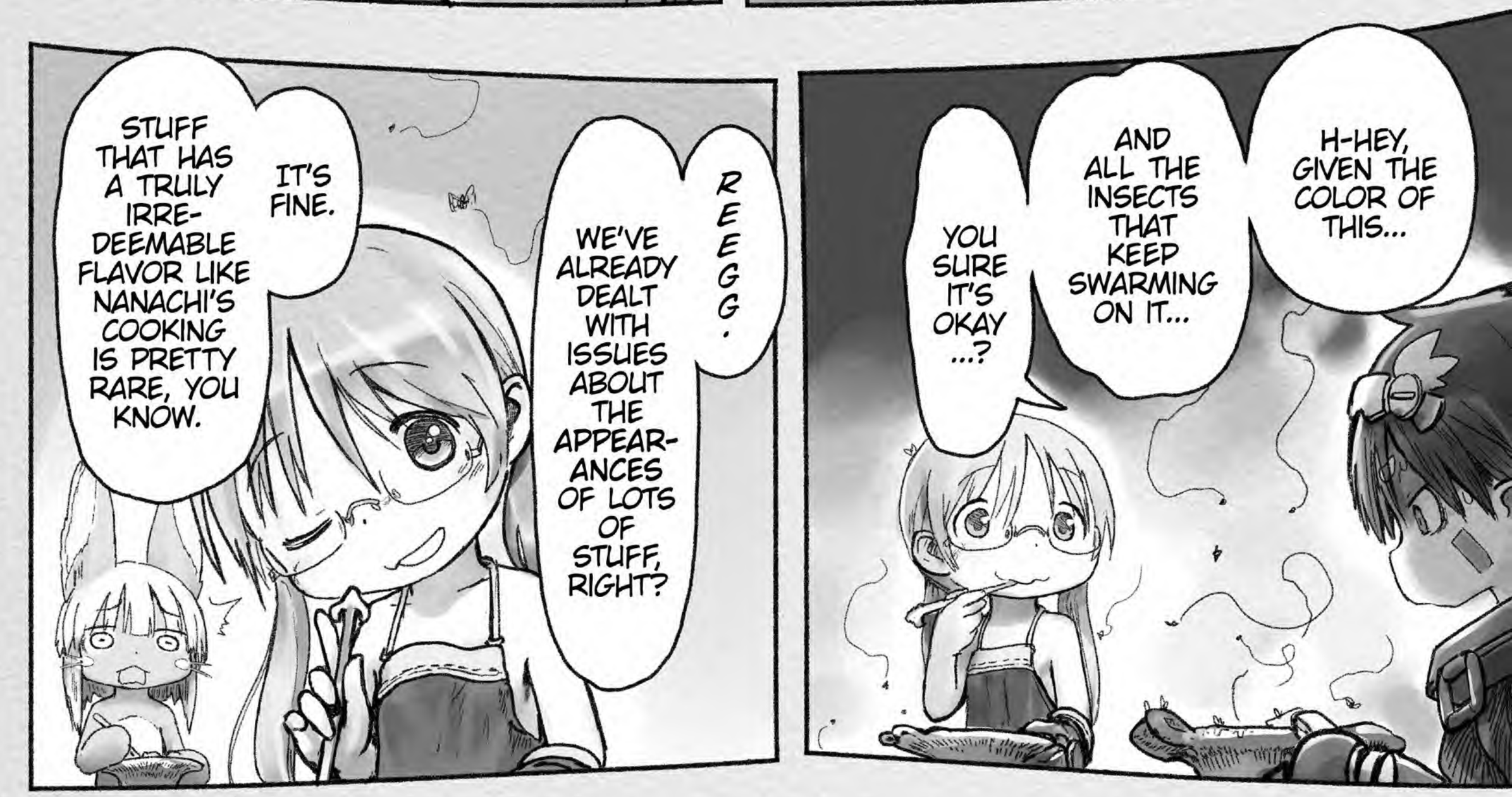
THIS'S... THE TOILET ...?

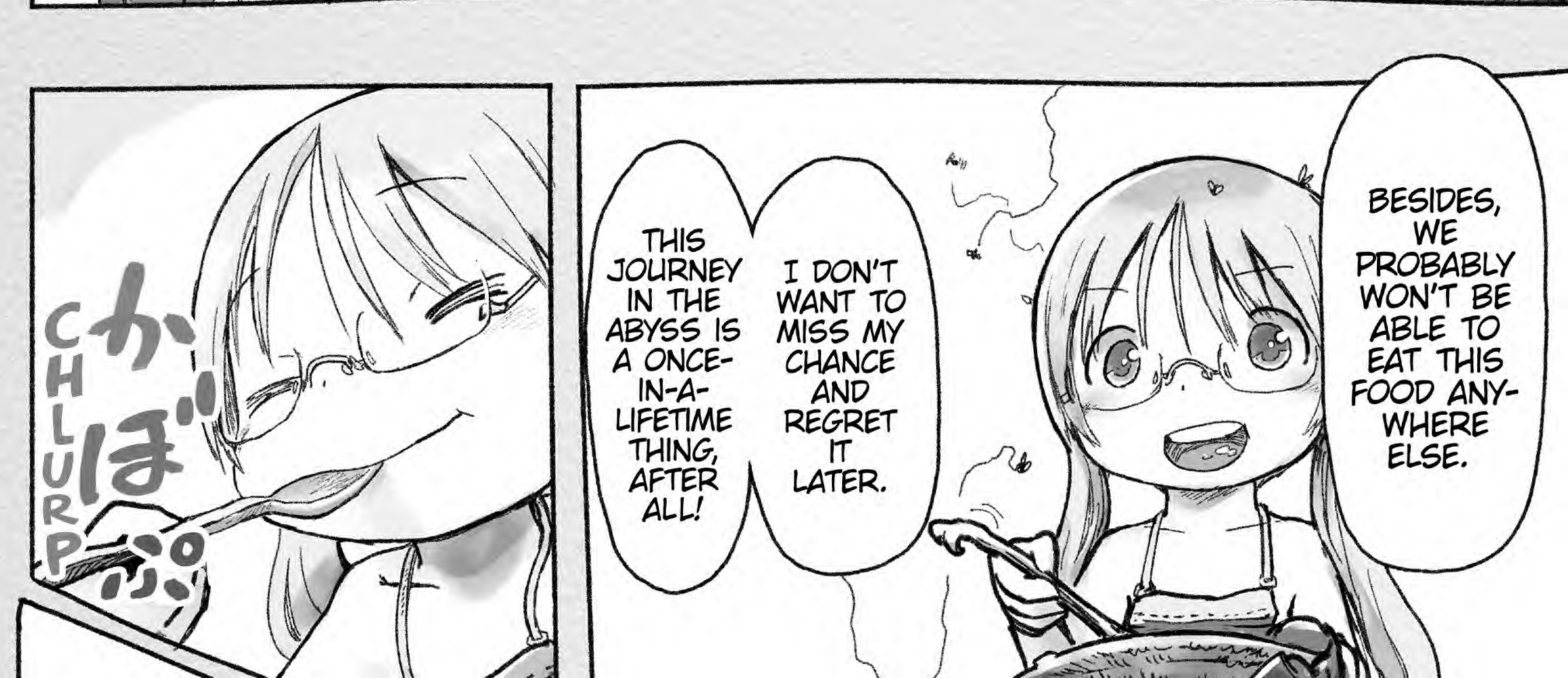
Pulsating toilet bowl.

SO MANY BUGS...

Scent: Reminiscent of roasted grains.

YOU'RE RIGHT...
WHAT?
IT'S NOT HALF BAD, YOU KNOW?


STUFF THAT HAS A TRULY IRRE-DEEMABLE FLAVOR LIKE NANACHI'S COOKING IS PRETTY RARE, YOU KNOW.
IT'S FINE.
WE'VE ALREADY DEALT WITH ISSUES ABOUT THE APPEAR-ANCES OF LOTS OF STUFF, RIGHT?
REEEGG.
YOU SURE IT'S OKAY ...?
AND ALL THE INSECTS THAT KEEP SWARMING ON IT...
H-HEY, GIVEN THE COLOR OF THIS...


かぶっ
CHLURP
THIS JOURNEY IN THE ABYSS IS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME THING, AFTER ALL!
I DON'T WANT TO MISS MY CHANCE AND REGRET IT LATER.
BESIDES, WE PROBABLY WON'T BE ABLE TO EAT THIS FOOD ANY-WHERE ELSE.

NGH...
FLZ
NGH...
MEYA...

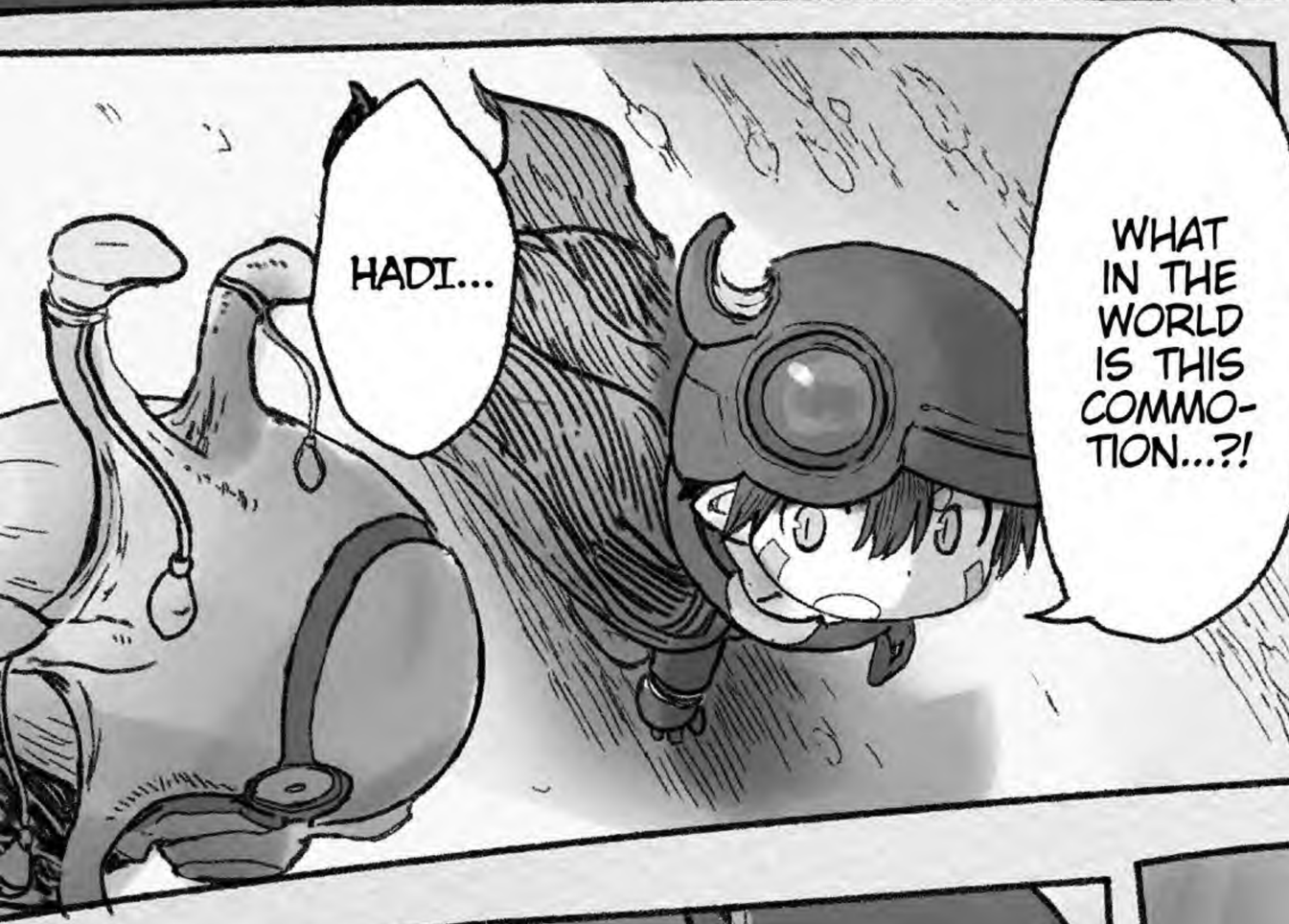
SHE'LL PROBABLY SPEND HALF THE DAY GLUED TO THE TOILET.
THIS IS A SCENE I'VE SEEN COUNT-LESS TIMES AT THE ORPHAN-AGE.
BATH-ROOM !!
ZOOOM

BUSTLE BUSTLE
I'M GONNA LOOK FOR THINGS THAT SHOULD BE GOOD FOR MEINYA AND RIKO.
WANNA COME WITH?
SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO TODAY?

THWUD
IT'S ODDLY BUSY.
WHAT'S GOING ON?

MAJI-KAJA!
RIE.

!!
AN EARTH-QUAKE--NO.
WHAT WAS THAT IMPACT...?

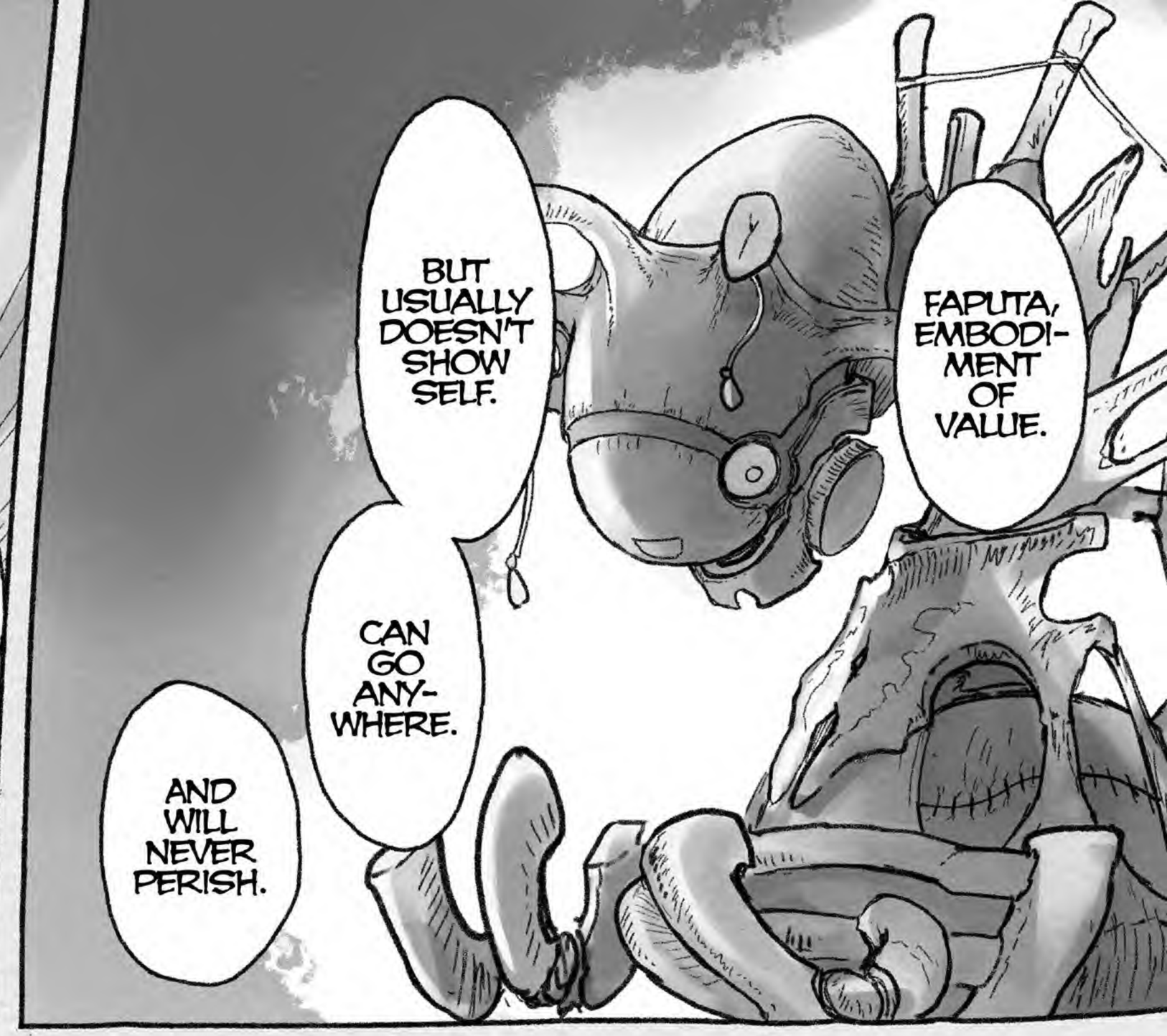

HADI...
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS THIS COMMO-TION...?!

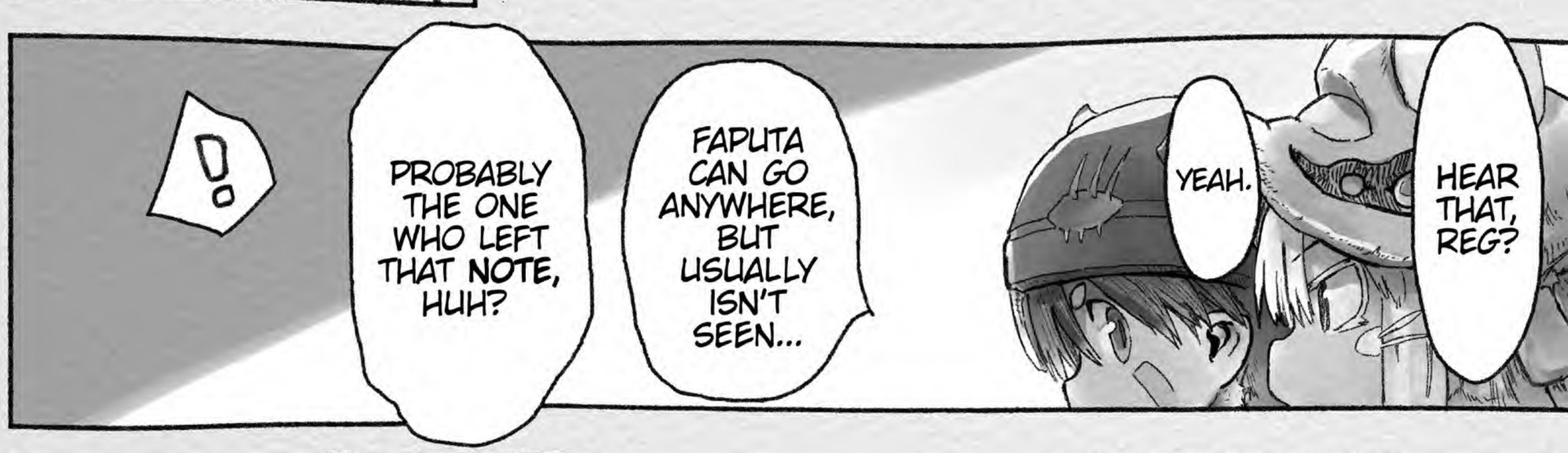
FAPU-TA?

IT MUST BE FAPUTA.
KAJA'LL GO SEE, TOO.

VERY RARE.
ALWAYS VERY ANGRY...

KAJA WANTS TO SEE!


FAPUTA, EMBODIMENT OF VALUE.
BUT USUALLY DOESN'T SHOW SELF.
CAN GO ANYWHERE.
AND WILL NEVER PERISH.


!
PROBABLY THE ONE WHO LEFT THAT NOTE, HUH?
FAPUTA CAN GO ANYWHERE, BUT USUALLY ISN'T SEEN...
YEAH.
HEAR THAT, REG?

ざわわ…
BUSTLE…
CAN I ASK YOU TO DO SOME RECON?
LEAVING MEINYA AND AN IMMOBILE RIKO BEHIND IN THIS RUCKUS MAKES ME UNEASY.
IF ANYTHING COMES UP, I'LL LET YOU KNOW USING THE COMM DEVICE.
ROGER.

LET'S GO, NANACHI.
W-WAIT!

GOT IT!

AND COME BACK STRAIGHT AWAY IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!

DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!

KAJA DOESN'T WANT TO LET THE HUMAN CHILD'S VALUE FALL.

THAT'S NO GOOD.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY SELL CLEAN WATER AND FRUIT?

CLACK カチ

CLACK カチ

HADI-ma!

SHE GOT AN UPSET STOMACH AND IS MOANING IN PAIN.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HUMAN CHILD?

NNAA.

HADI-ma...! BUT KAJA WANTS TO SEE FAPUTA!

KAJA'LL GUIDE YOU!

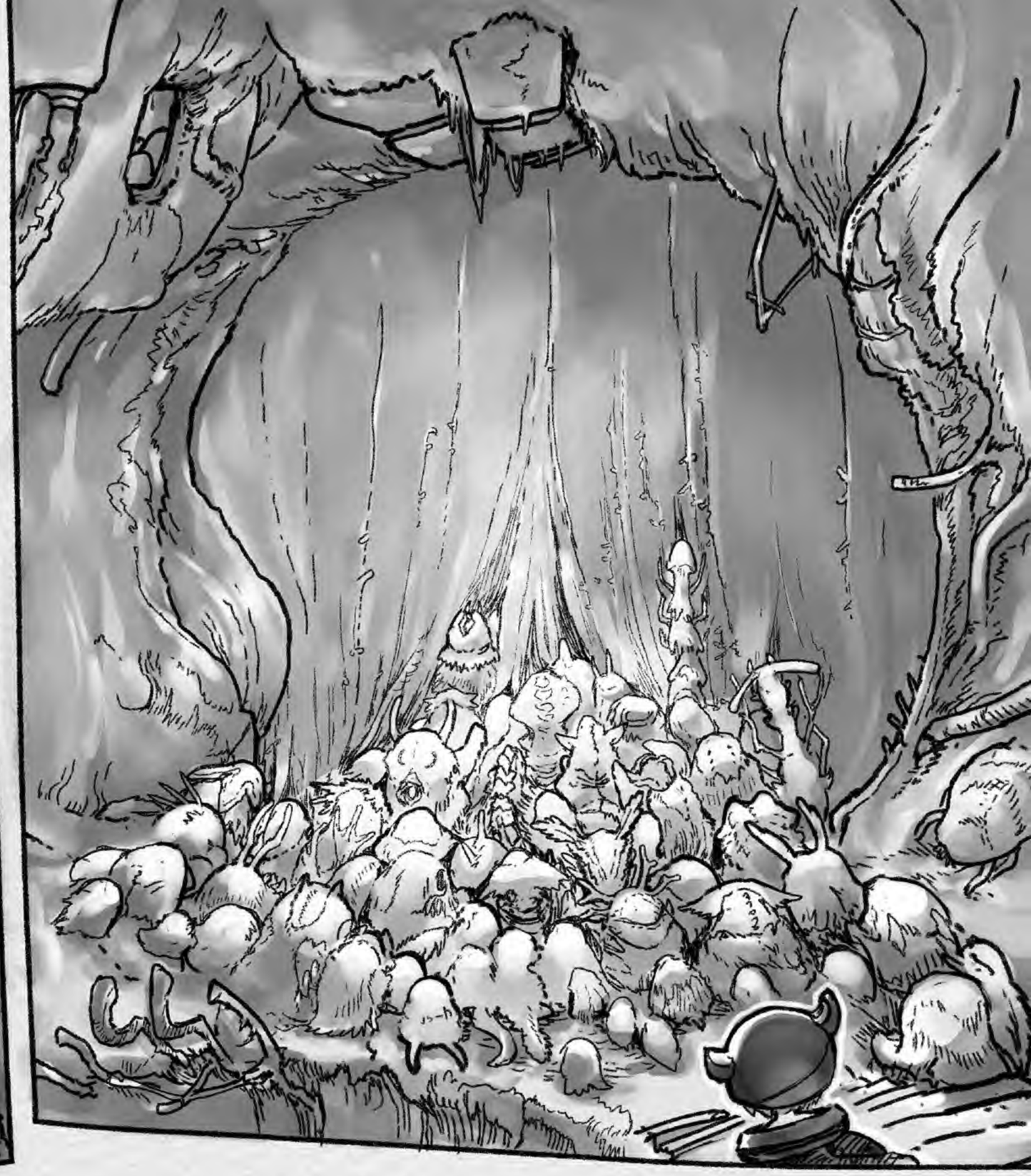
BUT ...!

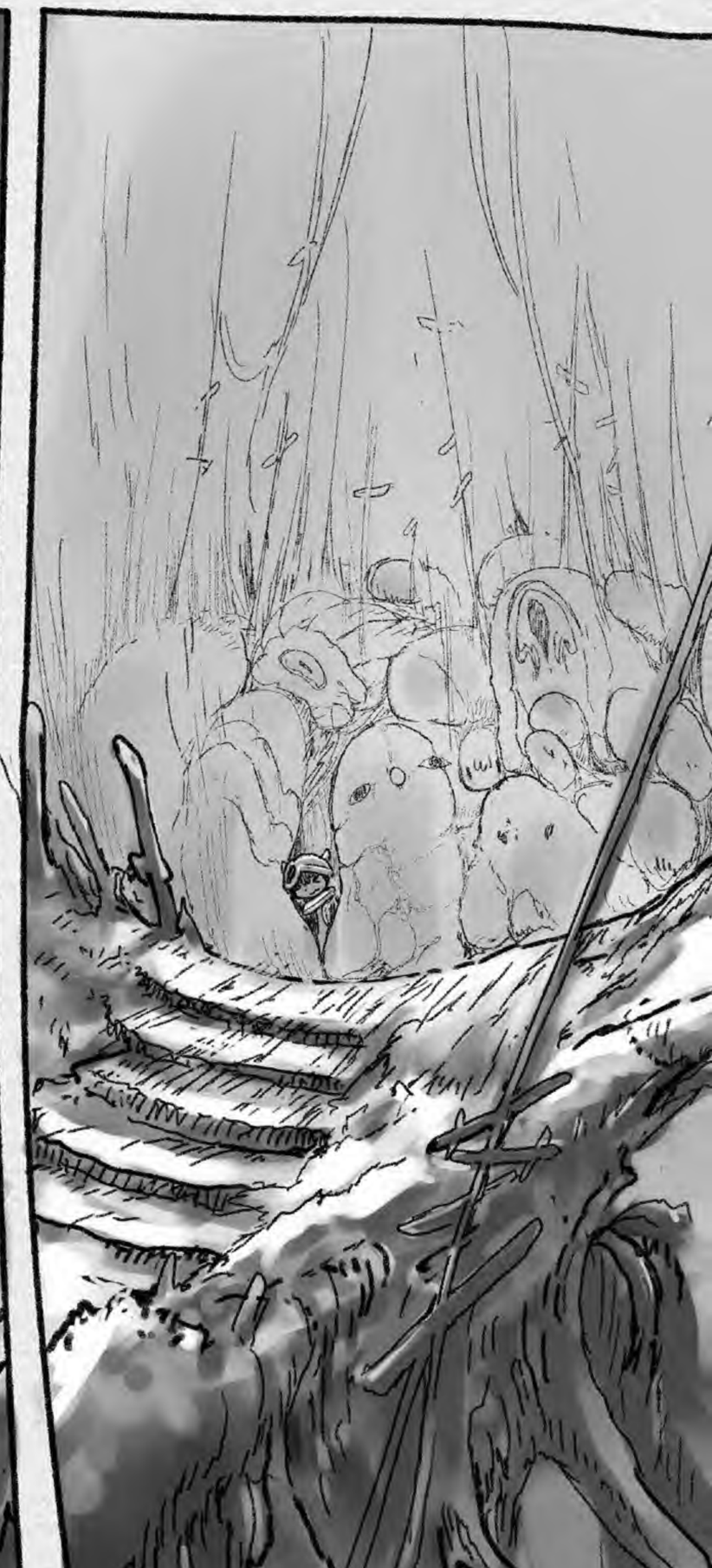
WHICH ONE'LL IT BE, THEN?

THEY CAN'T LEAVE THE VILLAGE ...

SO THEY'RE PACKED IN HERE, HUH?

LET ME THROUGH!





WEELL...

ABOUT THIS FAPUTA ...

WHAT'RE THEY LIKE?

LEER...

HADI-mae...

FAPU-TA.

THE MEAN-ING IN THE COMMON LAN-GUAGE IS...

HOW DO YOU SAY IT...?

!!

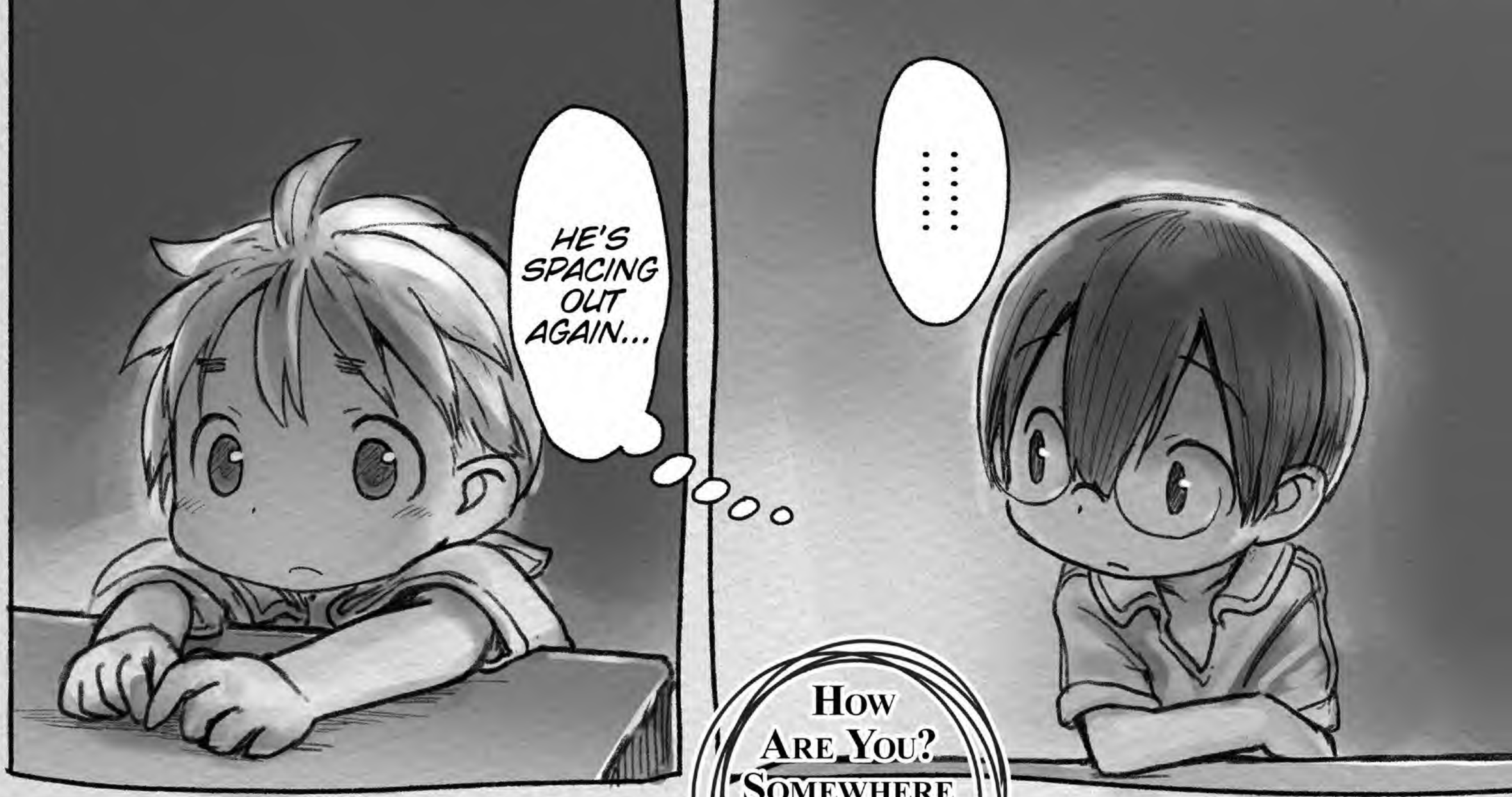
A HIGH-STATUS ...

FE-MALE.

WHAT? SHE A PRINCESS OR SOME-THING?

THAT'S RIGHT.

PRIN-CESS ...
PRIN-CESS OF THE HOL-LOWS.



How Are You? Somewhere 02

Mio

The Depths' First Layer
The Edge of the Abyss

THAT PLACE WHERE HUNDREDS OF THOSE "PRAYING SKELETONS" LIE RESTING, RIGHT?

YEAH.

THERE'S THAT BURIAL TOWER IN THE EDGE OF THE ABYSS, RIGHT?

Burial Tower
(About 300 meters from the surface.)

OH? WHAT? TELL ME!

HAVE YOU HEARD THIS ONE BEFORE?

AH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

THERE WERE PRAYING SKELETONS DOWN THERE, TOO...

ANYWAY, UNDER THAT BURIAL TOWER THERE WAS ANOTHER RUIN.

YES, PRAYING SKELETONS--REMAINS FROM TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO.

JUST THE OTHER DAY, THEY DISCOVERED YET ANOTHER RUIN UNDER THAT ONE.

NOW GET THIS ...

SO THAT PRAYING POSE WAS ALREADY POPULAR WAY BACK THEN?

BUT THEY WERE EVEN OLDER--FROM FOUR THOUSAND YEARS AGO, APPARENTLY.

ABOUT A THOUSAND PRAYING SKELETONS WERE FOUND, AND THIS TIME THEY'RE FROM *SIX THOUSAND* YEARS AGO!

PRETTY CREEPY.

SO IT WAS THAT PREVA-LENT, HUH?

EVERY TWO THOU-SAND YEARS... BEEN JUST ABOUT THAT LONG NOW, HASN'T IT?

AH...

I WISH I COULD TELL REG AND FREAK HIM OUT.

I WONDER WHERE THEY ARE NOW ...

IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR YOU GUYS TO BE LOAFING AROUND?

THAT LADY WE JUST BROUGHT HERE GAVE US A WHOLE BUNCH IN GUIDE FEES...

SO WE'RE SLACKING OFF FOR A BIT.

GOOD-NESS ME! I SEE THIS PLACE HAS BECOME A HANG-OUT FOR DELIN-QUENTS.

OH, THAT REMINDS ME-- HOW IS KIYUI DOING?

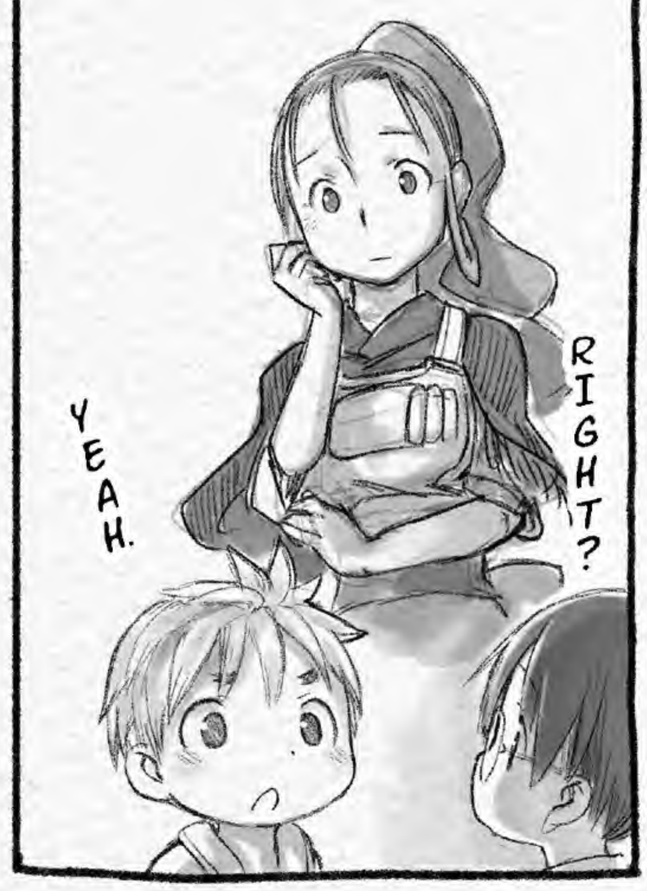
AH... HE'S...

NOT GETTING ANY BETTER AT ALL.

EVEN THE DOCTORS WHO EXAMINED HIM DON'T REALLY UNDER-STAND IT...

.....

SURE-LY, IT CAN'T BE THAT ...


YEAH.
RIGHT?

WAS HE REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS BIRTHDAY CELE-BRATION TODAY. ...

AND APPAR-ENTLY, THEY ALL DIED ON THEIR BIRTH-DAYS... IT'S KIND OF SCARY.
A NUMBER OF MY REGULAR CUS-TOMERS HAVE PASSED AWAY.

HUH?!
AUNTIE, YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT RUMOR, DO YOU ...?
NOT REALLY, BUT YOU KNOW ...

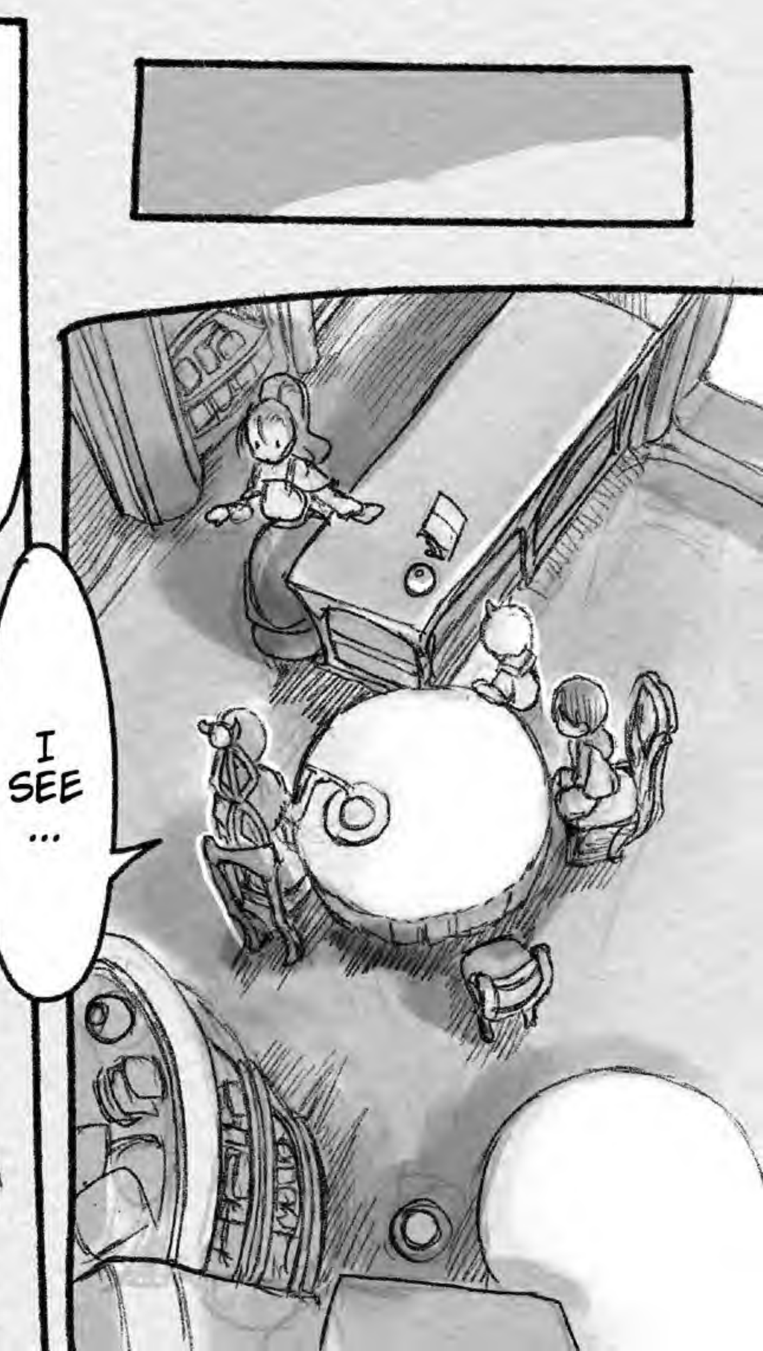
OH?
COULD YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT THAT?

OH DEAR, MY CUS-TOMER FROM EARLIER ...
MISS!

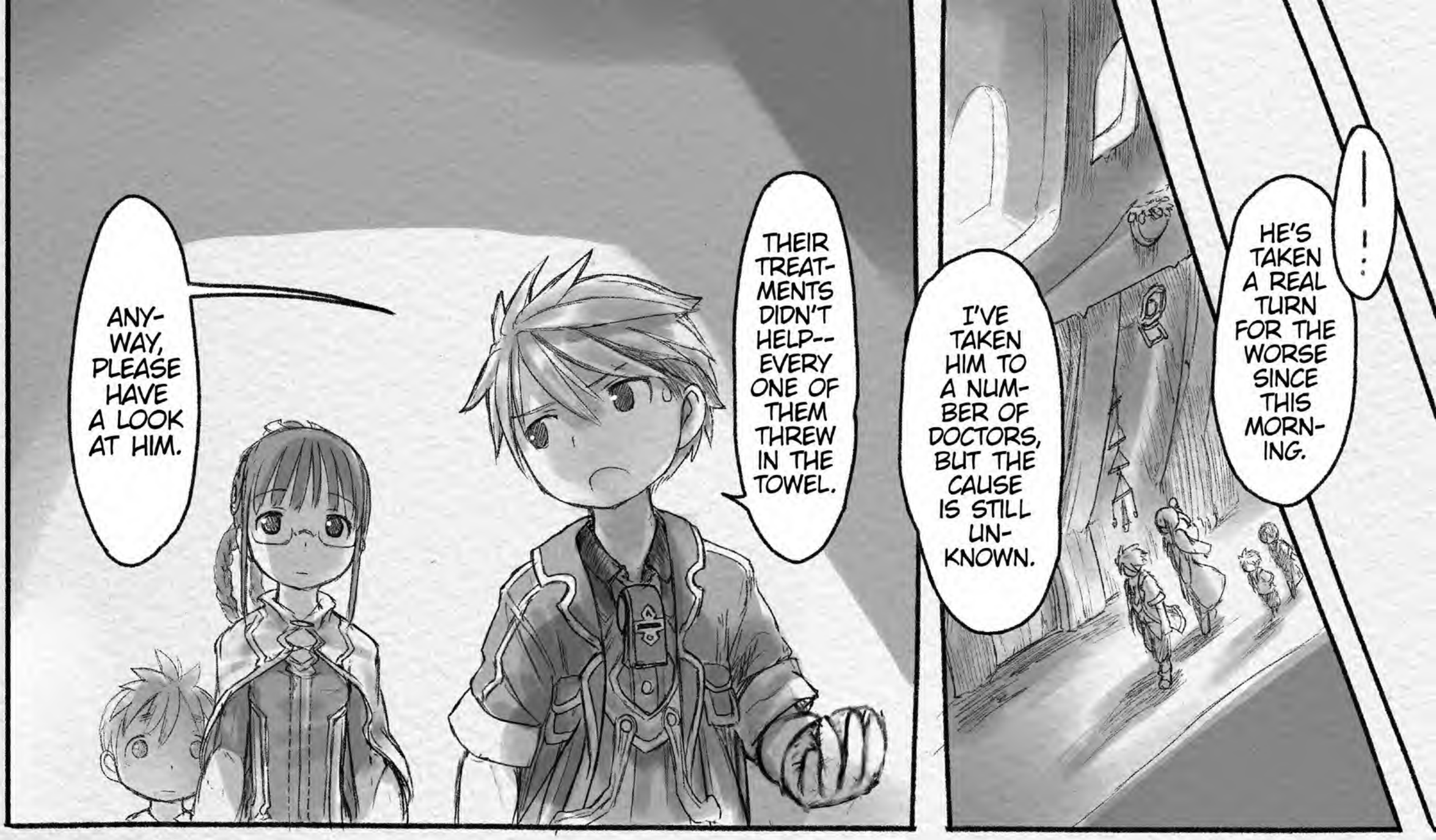
I'M MIO.
I WORK AS A PHARMA-CIST ON THE CARAVAN FLEET.

EVEN IF NOTHING CAN BE DONE HERE, THERE MIGHT BE SOME WAY TO HELP USING THE CARAVAN'S FACILITIES.
WE HAVE PEOPLE WHO TRAVEL FROM COUN-TRY TO COUNTRY AND LEARN VARIOUS TREAT-MENTS.

IT'S EERIE THAT THEY PASS AWAY RIGHT ON THEIR BIRTHDAYS, ISN'T IT?
I KNOW, RIGHT?


I SEE ...

NOW, CHILD-REN, I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO CONTINUE GUIDING ME AROUND.
PLEASE TAKE ME TO YOUR ORPHAN-AGE.
THANKS FOR THE FOOD.
FIRST THINGS FIRST--LET ME GO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS CHILD, KIYUI.
YOU CAN CALL ME "DOC."
AH HA HA!
THANKS FOR STOPPING IN!
YOU MIGHT NOT LOOK IT, BUT YOU'RE PRETTY AMAZING!
YOU'VE GOT THAT RIGHT.
YOU'RE NO ORDINARY TOURIST--ARE YOU, MISS?
OH, HOW I ENVY HER!
I WON-DER IF THERE ARE MEDI-CINES FOR THAT KIND OF THING ...
THAT WOMAN HASN'T CHANGED A BIT IN THESE LAST SEVEN YEARS.
.....

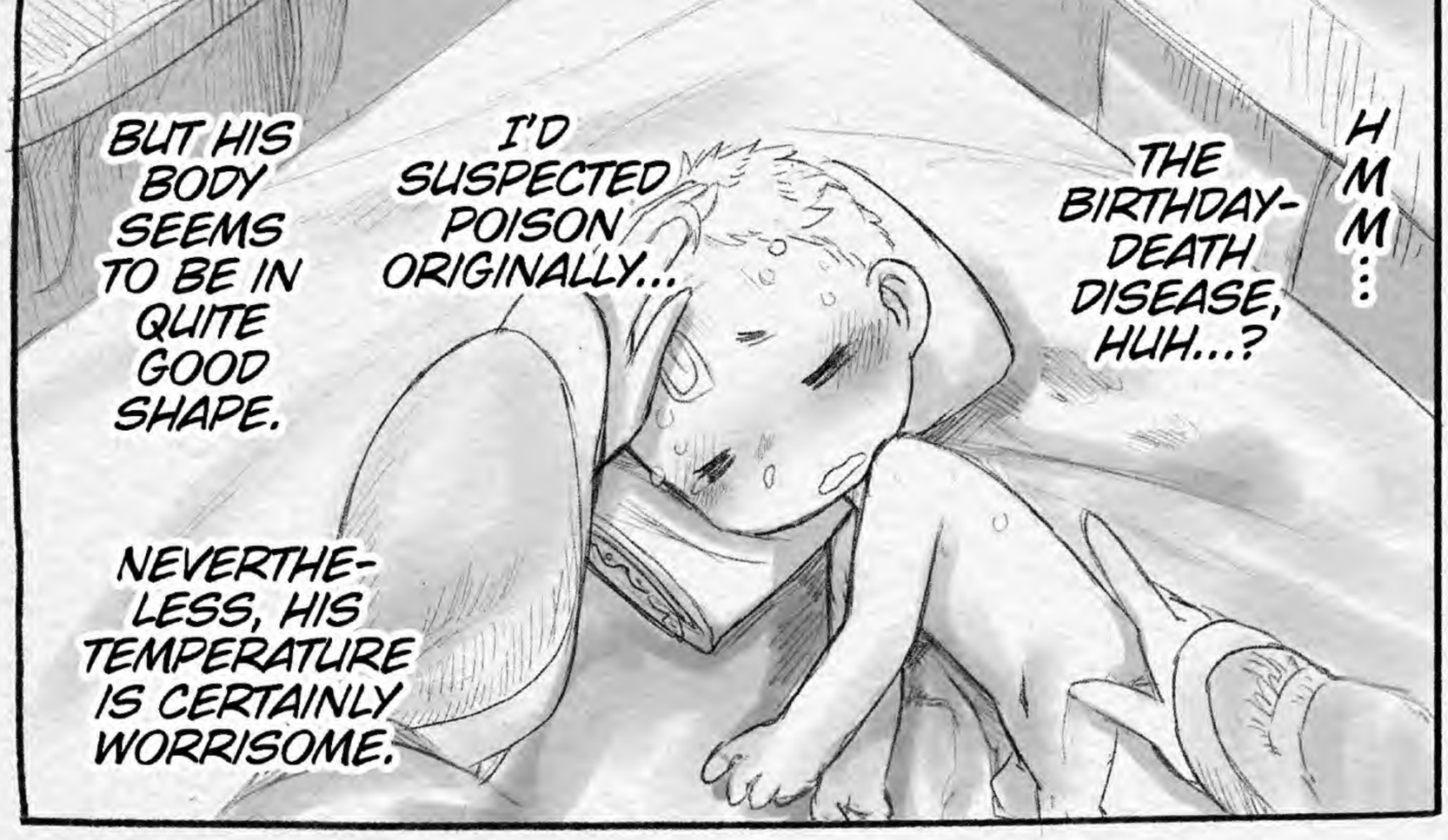

ANY-WAY, PLEASE HAVE A LOOK AT HIM.
THEIR TREAT-MENTS DIDN'T HELP--EVERY ONE OF THEM THREW IN THE TOWEL.
I'VE TAKEN HIM TO A NUM-BER OF DOCTORS, BUT THE CAUSE IS STILL UN-KNOWN.
HE'S TAKEN A REAL TURN FOR THE WORSE SINCE THIS MORN-ING.
!!

THE PRIDE OF CAVE RAIDERS ...?
IS THAT WHAT THEY MEAN BY...

BUT GOING OUT LIKE THIS IS JUST TOO SAD.
IT'D BE ONE THING FOR HIM TO DIE WHILE LIVING TO THE FULLEST DOWN IN THE PIT...

.....

OH, LEAD-ER!
PLEASE GIVE US SOME SPACE.


BUT HIS BODY SEEMS TO BE IN QUITE GOOD SHAPE.
I'D SUSPECTED POISON ORIGINALLY...
THE BIRTHDAY-DEATH DISEASE, HUH...?
HMM...
NEVERTHE-LESS, HIS TEMPERATURE IS CERTAINLY WORRISOME.

FIRST, WE NEED TO GET HIS FEVER DOWN, OR ELSE HIS BODY WILL BE PERMA-NENTLY DAMAGED EVEN IF HE DOES SURVIVE.
LET'S GET HIM TO THE CARAVAN'S MEDICAL SHIP.

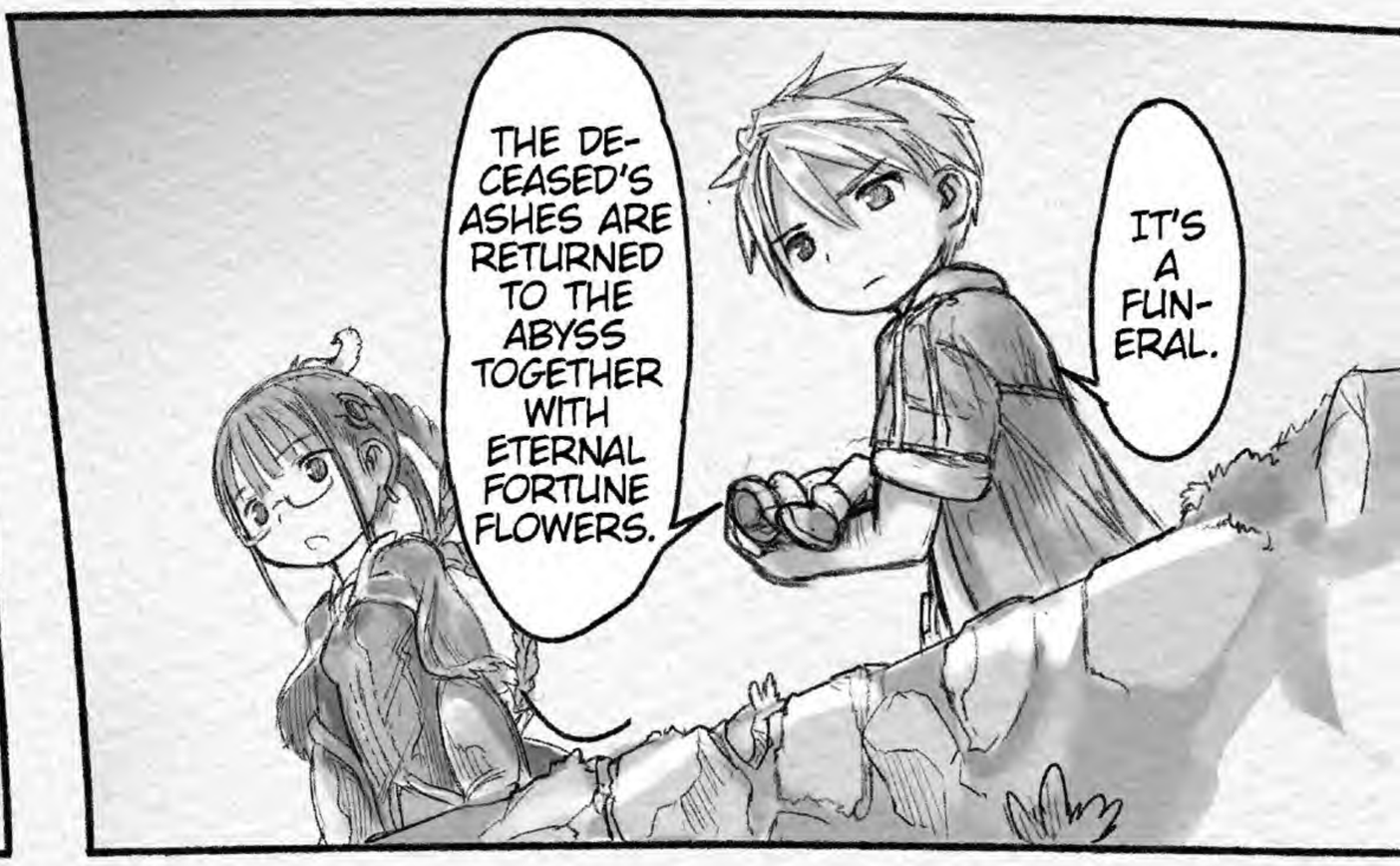
DOC-TOR, HOW IS HE?

SO I ASK THAT YOU ALONE COME WITH ME.
THERE'S STILL A POS-SIBILITY THIS IS AN INFEC-TIOUS DISEASE...

HE'S ... GONNA BE OKAY, RIGHT?
.....

WHAT'S UP WITH ALL THIS ...?

WHAT'S THAT?

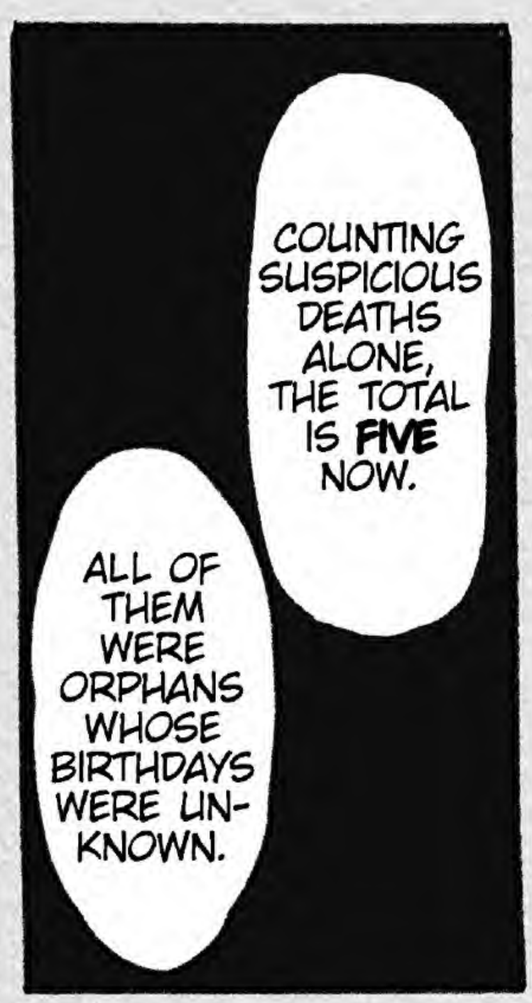

THE DE-CEASED'S ASHES ARE RETURNED TO THE ABYSS TOGETHER WITH ETERNAL FORTUNE FLOWERS.
IT'S A FUN-ERAL.

THAT FUNERAL IS FOR SOMEONE WHO PASSED FROM THE VERY SAME THING.
SERI-OUSLY ?!

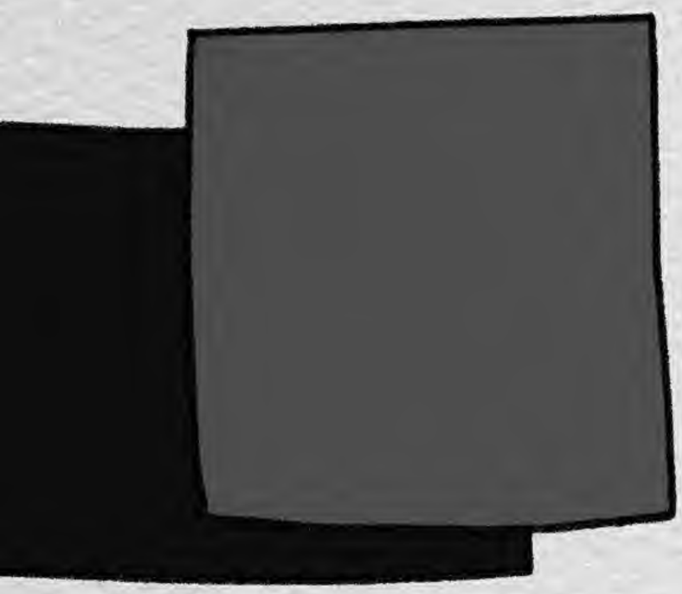
THERE IT IS AGAIN!
THAT "BIRTHDAY-DEATH DISEASE." IT'S SO SUSPICIOUS I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO ASK ABOUT IT!
FIDGET...
AN AWFUL LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE DIED ON THE DAY THEY WERE BORN.
IT'S SAID TO BE THE WORK OF SOME ILL-NESS.

RECENTLY, I HEARD THIS STRANGE RUMOR...

I'D LIKE TO THINK SOMETHING AS ABSURD AS ALL THIS...
IS JUST A STUPID MADE-UP STORY, BUT...

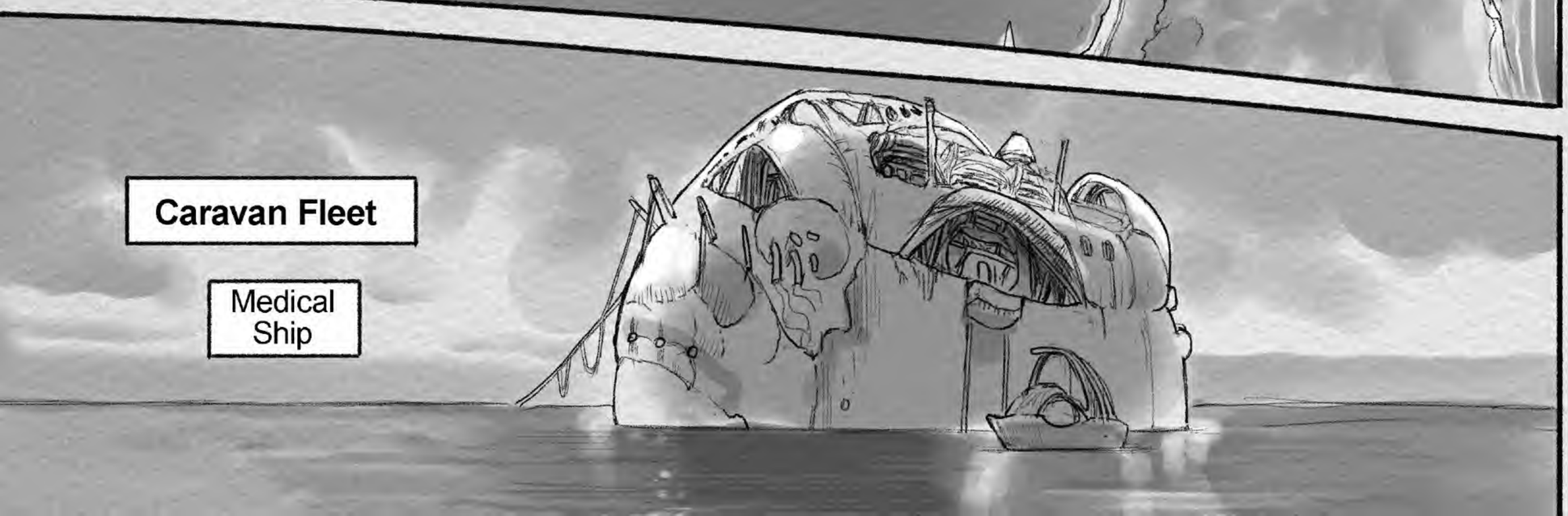

COUNTING SUSPICIOUS DEATHS ALONE, THE TOTAL IS **FIVE** NOW.
ALL OF THEM WERE ORPHANS WHOSE BIRTHDAYS WERE UNKNOWN.

TRUTH BE TOLD, BEFORE THIS CHILD GOT SICK, TWO OTHERS AT THE ORPHANAGE DIED DUE TO SOME UNKNOWN MEDICAL CONDITION.
THEY PASSED AWAY ON THEIR BIRTHDAYS.



PERHAPS... THIS IS WORSE THAN I THOUGHT?

HMM.
.....


Caravan Fleet
Medical Ship

YEP.

YOU-- ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?!

WHERE AM I?

KIYUI ...?!

WHAT COULD THIS POS-SIBLY MEAN?

I... DIDN'T EVEN DO ANY-THING.

I DON'T GET IT...!

SO HEALTHY IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE HE HAD A FEVER.

THIS CHILD IS...

SHWP

AT THIS POINT, I SUPPOSE IT HAS TO BE A CURSE OR SPELL...

SIGH

COULD IT BE HYP-NOSIS OR SOME-THING ...?

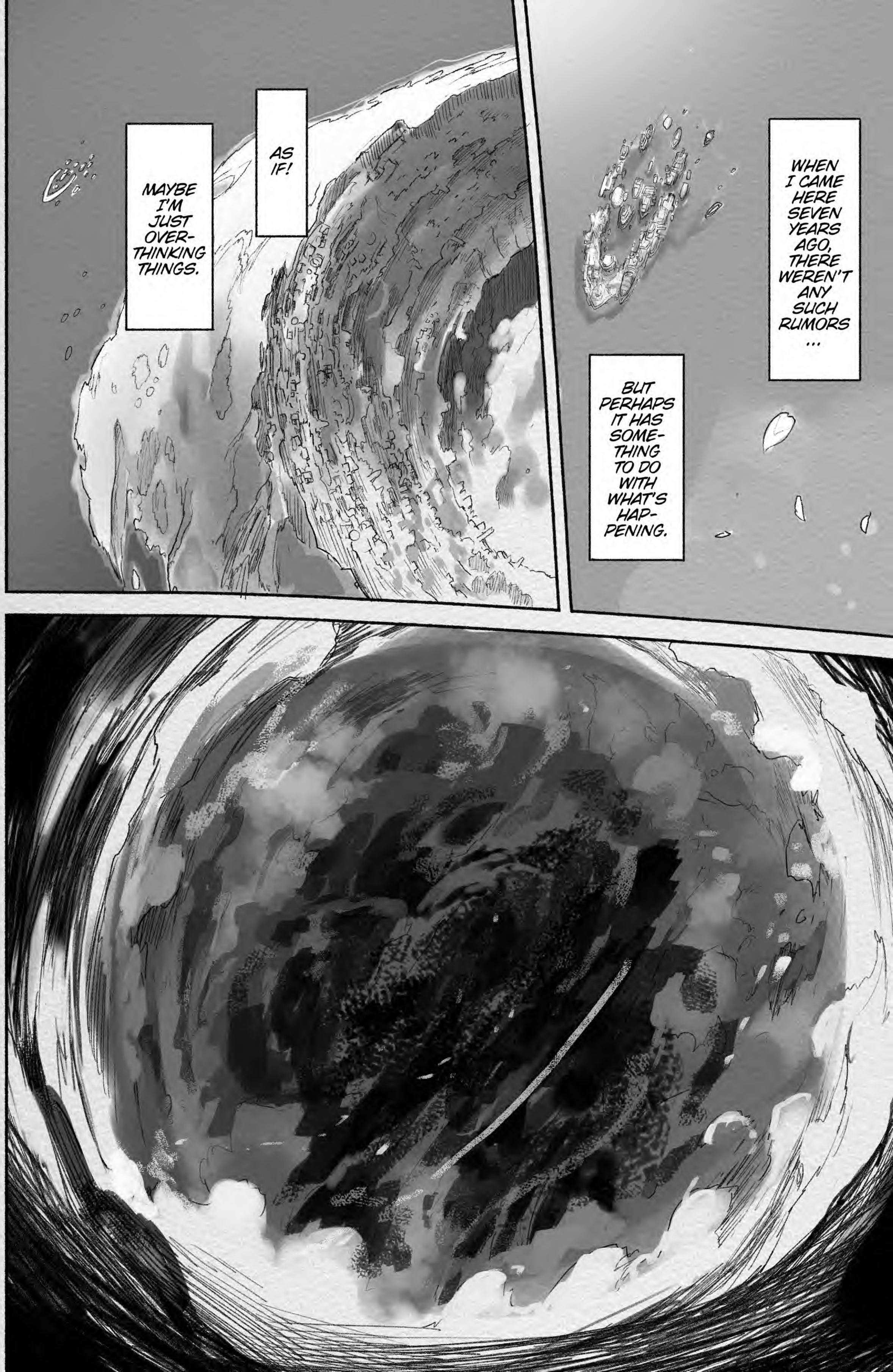
DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. WHY DID THE BOY GET BETTER? MAYBE WE SHOULD KEEP OUR GUARD UP UNTIL HIS BIRTHDAY HAS PASSED.

THAT MYS-TERIOUS "GREAT PIT OF THE NETHER-WORLD."

SOME-THING IRRATIONAL KNOWN AS A "CURSE"...

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THERE WAS SOME-THING, WASN'T THERE?

LEADER, COULD YOU PLEASE TELL ME SOME-THING?


MAYBE I'M JUST OVER-THINKING THINGS.
AS IF!
WHEN I CAME HERE SEVEN YEARS AGO, THERE WEREN'T ANY SUCH RUMORS ...
BUT PERHAPS IT HAS SOME-THING TO DO WITH WHAT'S HAP-PENING.

ゴウン
GWOAR
The Depths' Second Layer
Seeker Camp
GWOAAR
ゴウン
IS THE BASE'S GUARDIAN--ER...THE UNMOVABLE SOVEREIGN AVAILABLE BY ANY CHANCE?
NO.
EX-CUSE ME.
WEL-COME, JIRUO.
GWOAR...
ゴウン...
I SEEK AN AUDIENCE WITH HER.
WHAT A LARGE PACK. ARE YOU RETURNING FROM A CAVE-RAIDING EXPEDI-TION?
How Are You? Somewhere
03
Jiruo
!!
IS THAT YOU, MA-RULK ?!
AH!
YOUR NEW LOOK REALLY SUR-PRISED ME... I MEAN, AREN'T YOU A--?
UH ... WELL...
SO MASTER IS AL-READY AWAITING YOU.
I SAW YOU THROUGH THE TELE-SCOPE, JIRUO...
HMM...
THIS KID SEEMS TO KNOW ME...
BUT WERE THEY HERE THE OTHER TIMES I VISITED?

I'M DELIGHTED. SO, YOU FINALLY FELT LIKE STOPPING BY?
IT ...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE ...
UNMOVABLE SOVEREIGN.
HMM ...
"BIRTHDAY-DEATH DISEASE," HUH?

THE GUYS THAT COME HERE OFTEN SPEAK OF IT, YOU KNOW.

THEY SAY IT'S PERHAPS CAUSED BY THE PRAYING SKELETONS THAT ARE CHURNED OUT EVERY TWO THOUSAND YEARS.

.....

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS, UNMOVABLE SOVEREIGN?

THE TRUTH BEHIND THAT RIDICULOUS PHENOMENON IN WHICH PEOPLE DIE FROM VARIOUS CAUSES ON THEIR BIRTHDAYS.

IF THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT, YOU JUST HAVE TO **PRAY**, RIGHT?

ABOUT WHAT EXACTLY ...?

"NO ONE KNOWS" ...

THEN NO ONE REALLY KNOWS, DO THEY?

BUT ...

IF THAT'S INDEED THE CASE ...

IT SEEMS TO BE PICKLED SEA BEAST TONGUES AND STRAINED LIVER.

WHAT'S WRITTEN HERE?

I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS ONE BEFORE.

IS THIS WRITING FROM WEST BEOLUS-KA...?

HIS SPEECH AND DEFENSIVE MOVE-MENTS WERE QUITE SIMILAR TO LYZA'S, WEREN'T THEY?

SPEAKING OF RARE, HOW ABOUT THAT ME-CHANICAL DOLL...?

THE BOTTLE IN YOUR RIGHT HAND IS SAID TO BE DRIED INSECT ABDO-MENS.

SO I PUR-CHASED THEM FROM A CARAVAN SHIP.

I HEARD YOU HAVE A PENCHANT FOR UNUSUAL FLAVORS ...

WELL, IT'S JUST THAT WORD IS SOMETHING LYZA SAID EVERY TIME SHE DIDN'T GET HER WAY, YOU KNOW?

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

EVEN SO... SEEMS HER *IRRE-DEEMABLE* PERSON-ALITY DIDN'T RUB OFF ON HIM, HUH?

MUST'VE SPENT A LOT OF TIME WITH LYZA...

REG ...

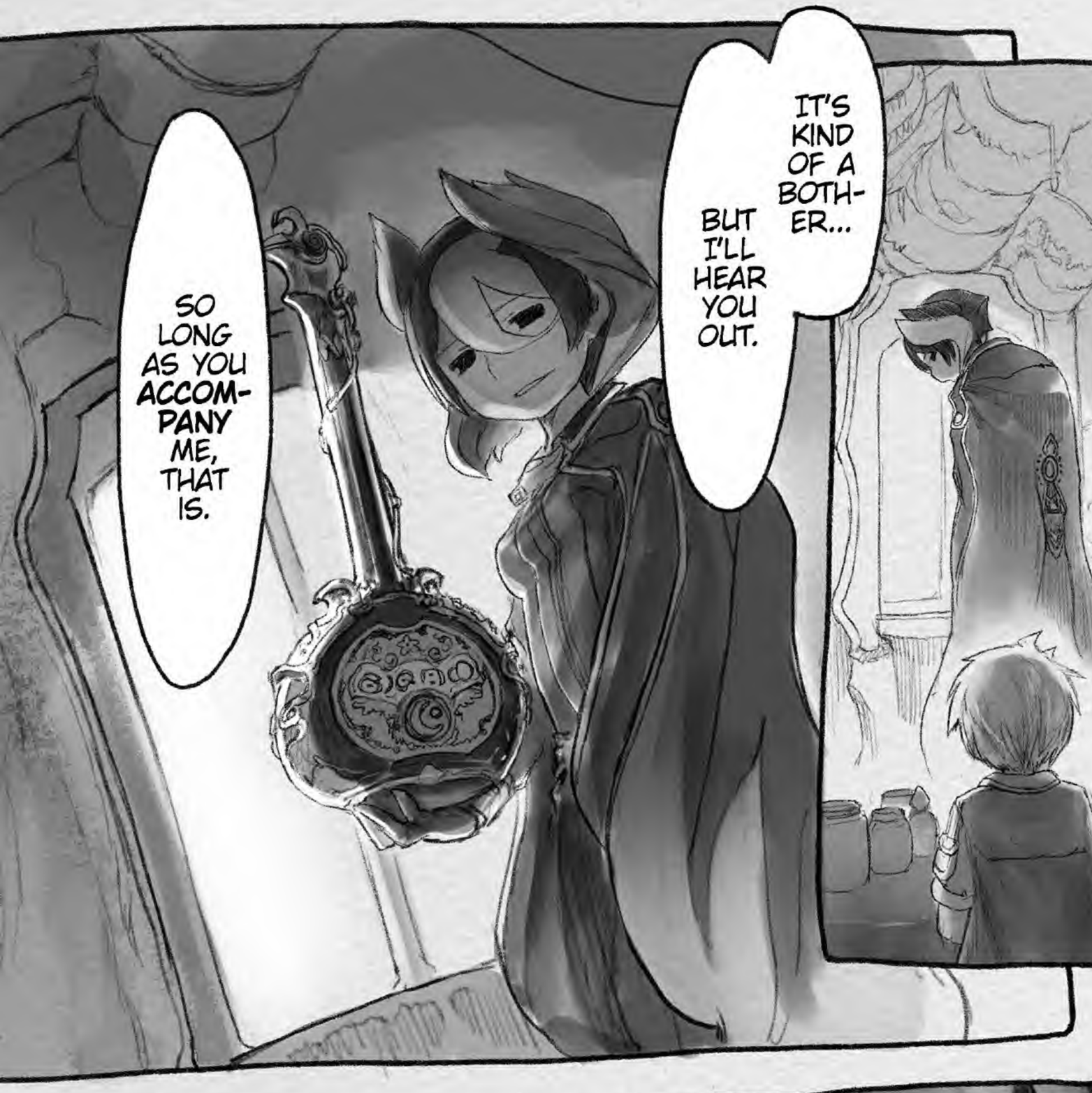
BEFORE HE LOST HIS MEMORY.

I APOL-OGIZE FOR ANY TROUBLE THEIR VISIT CAUSED.

HEY.
YOU WANT TO ASK A FAVOR OF ME, RIGHT?

HMM...
THIS WOULD GO WELL WITH SOME BOOZE.

.....

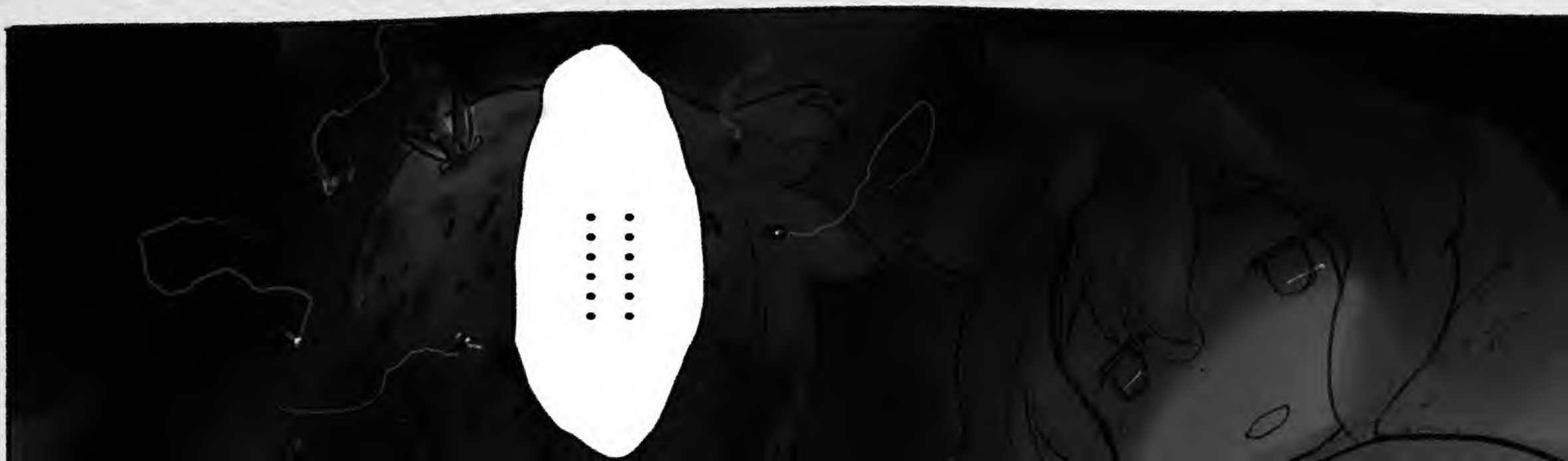

SO LONG AS YOU ACCOMPANY ME, THAT IS.
BUT I'LL HEAR YOU OUT.
IT'S KIND OF A BOTHER...

.....
YOU SEE RIGHT THROUGH ME, DON'T YOU?

Y-YES!
MARULK, PREPARE TWO FOR ME.

GLADLY...
.....

IT'D BE NICE TO GO TO THE MUSEUM AGAIN, HUH?
HEY, SHERU-MI...


.....

HOW LONG AGO WAS THAT?

DO YOU THINK THE UN-MOVABLE SOVEREIGN WILL COME AGAIN?

HEY, SHERU-MI...

SHERU-MI...?

WHY CAN'T WE GO TOGETHER ...?

WE'RE TWINS, THOUGH ...

.....

...

RIGHT ?

WE'RE TWINS AFTER ALL...

BUT I GUESS WE'LL UNDER-STAND BEFORE LONG.

Sherumi cycles and returns to the netherworld.

WHA...?

WHAT IS THIS...?

Natsuhi cycles and returns to the netherworld.

Andazi cycles and returns to the netherworld.

Suzurio cycles and returns to the netherworld.

AND ALL THESE...

PEOPLE'S... NAMES...?

ARE THEY NAMEPLATES?

SO MANY ETERNAL FORTUNES... PETALS OF THE "FLOWERS OF FORTITUDE"...

THEY'RE FALLING SO FAST I CAN'T EVEN SEE THEM.

THE CENTER OF THE PIT...

ARE THESE ALL...

NAMES OF THE DECEASED?!

WHAT IN THE ...?

"THESE ARE FLOWERS OF FORTITUDE.

"WE SCATTER A WHOLE BUNCH OF 'EM DURING CELEBRATIONS...

"AND FUNERALS."

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE ABYSS...?!
To Be Continued...

Riko Teaches About The City of Orth

SO, I MAKE 'EM AS BIG AS I CAN!

NNNANAAA...

RIKO BOMB

BASICALLY, THEY LET US EAT SOMETHING NICE SINCE WE MIGHT DIE.

DAYS WHEN CAVE RAIDERS DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS ARE "DAYS THEIR SOULS MIGHT RETURN TO THE ABYSS."

RICE IS SOMETHING SPECIAL THAT WE ONLY GET TO EAT ON DAYS WE HEAD DOWN INTO THE ABYSS.

CURRENCY OF ORTH

100 Orth

Front

Back

50 Orth

There are other ones, too.

RICE ISN'T GROWN IN ORTH!

There's no place to do it!

WHY'S RICE SO SPECIAL...?

NNAA.

I GUESS OUR ORPHANAGE MAKES A LOT OF MONEY...

BECAUSE IT'S ALL IMPORTED FROM OVERSEAS.

THAT ONE WAS LEFT OVER FROM THE DAY BEFORE AND WAS STARTING TO GO BAD.

DIDN'T I EAT SOME IN YOUR ROOM WHEN I WOKE UP, THOUGH?

SPECIAL...?

Shipped to

Orth

HEGA RICE

Product of the Archipelago of East Beoluska.

THINGS USED BESIDES RICE

Seasoned with strong seaweed salt. For seniors, it's often stuffed with a ball of spices.

IN

BEANS, SMOKED FISH, SPICES, AND MAGOTATO STARCH. IT'S TOO SPICY FOR US.

SUBERA

Processed nori-like seaweed.

Product of Orth.

Thick mat sourced from trees. Gets rid of excess moisture and makes it taste better.

The King of Seasonings: Eternal Fortune Seeds

Everyday Staples

MAGOTATO: A potato with a lot of history.

POWDERED.

GRANULATED. Soft and crumbly when boiled.

MUSTARD STEAMED BUN

Reg's favorite.

?
SHE GOT ME...!
SQUIRM...

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

MADE IN ABYSS

story and art by **AKIHITO TSUKUSHI**

VOLUME 6

TRANSLATION
Beni Axia Conrad

ADAPTATION
Jake Jung

LETTERING AND RETOUCH
James Gaubatz

LOGO DESIGN
Andrea Rodriguez

COVER DESIGN
Nicky Lim

PROOFREADER
Shanti Whitesides
Danielle King

EDITOR
Jenn Grunigen

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Lissa Pattillo

MANAGING EDITOR
Julie Davis

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Adam Arnold

PUBLISHER
Jason DeAngelis

MADE IN ABYSS VOLUME 6

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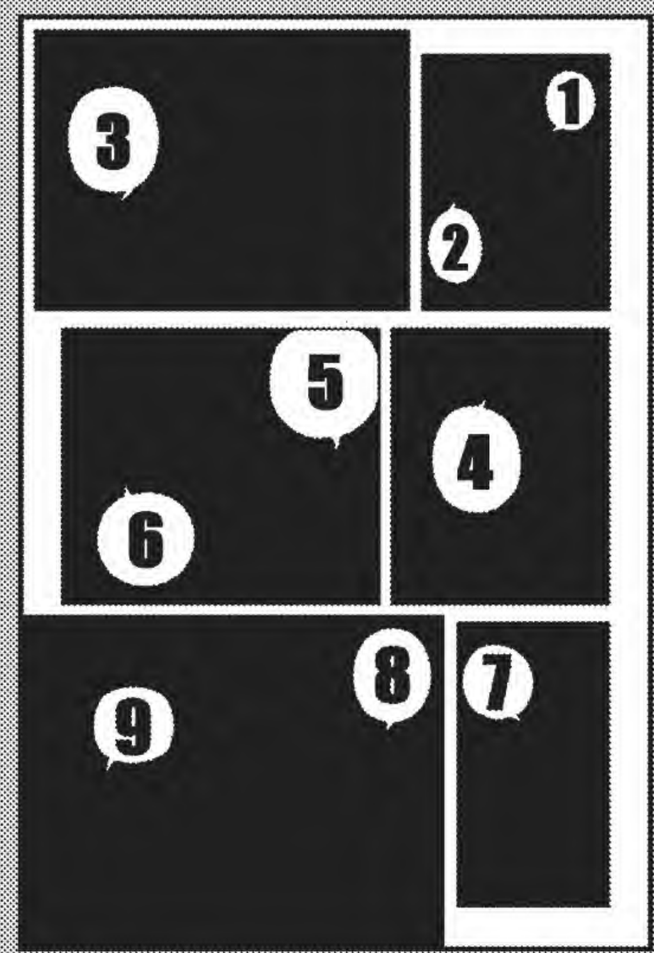
READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



THE PATH OF NO RETURN

Riko and her friends have finally made it to the sixth layer! Not long after taking their last dive, they find themselves in a village populated by Hollows who possess a peculiar sense of value. Mysteries, terrors, and bewildering truths await them in the Abyss' deepest depths!

OLDER TEEN

Seven Seas Entertainment
sevenseasentertainment.com
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HELLO ABYSS
42
PRINCESS OF THE HOLLOWS
SOSU ...
MY GOAL ...
HAS AP-PEAR-ED.

KON-bo-susu.

DIMA-ra sosu.

GOOOON...

H-HEY...

...

FWP

LOOM
7
ンデ
ガバ
GAP
ギュッ

FOUR ARMS ...!
GULP...

AH-HOLLOW...?
BUT... SHE'S...
HIGH BODY TEMPERATURE...
THE SCENT OF THE SUN...
YOU...
WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOUR ARM?
DID YOU GET HURT, SOSU?
SHE'S AWFULLY WELL PUT TOGETHER.
THE SAME AS NANACHI.
REG.
ドBA-ゥTHUN
REG...

WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOU?
SOSU…
REG !!

LEFT THAT NOTE?!
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO …
MET BEFORE …?!
WE'VE …
WHO …
WHO ARE YOU ?!

WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOU, SOSU ?
YOU …

HADI-ma...
OOGU!!
GOOON!
BE-HIND?
WHAT, SOSU?
A a.
FJ...
KYUU

DON'T LIKE LOTS OF EYES, SOSU...

BASO, WE'RE GOING HOME.

WHAT ...?!

FURUFU-de FUA-bera...

RIE...

FWUFF ふわ

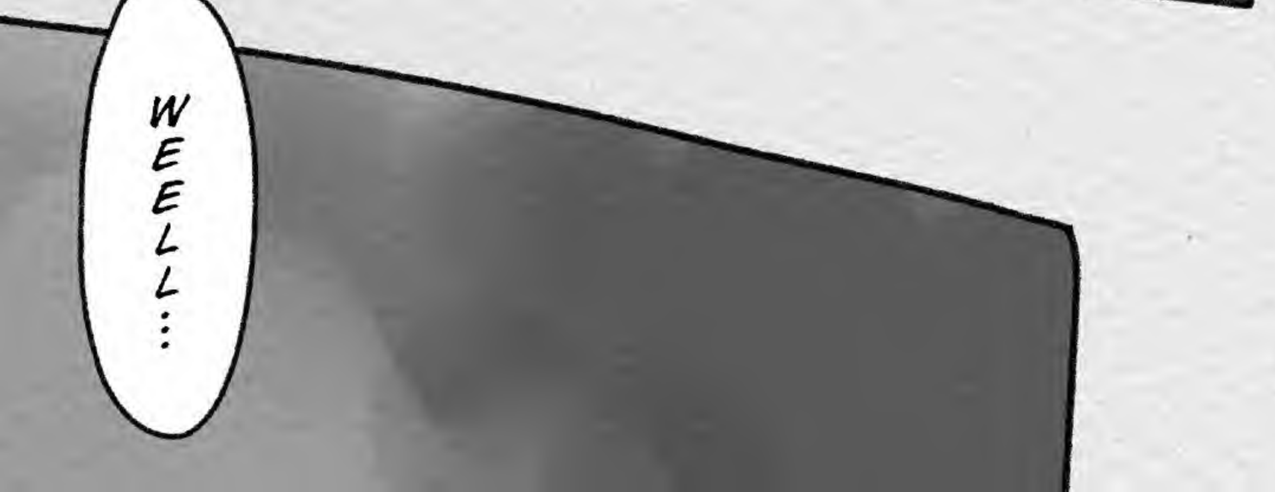
MMPH...!

!

すんすん

ズン
THUN

ズン
THUN


WEELL…

PWOOSH
WHOOAA?!

NICE-SMELLING NANACHI.

THE NAME'S **NANA-CHI.**

NICE-SMELLING FLUFFY ONE.

HADI ...

I HOPE HE'S NOT BEING RECKLESS.

THE COMM DEVICE ISN'T GETTING THROUGH. IS IT BEING BLOCKED?

I VALUE HAVING SMALL THINGS CRAWL AROUND MY BODY, YOU KNOW.

WOULD STEPPING ON THAT FLAT GUY FROM EARLIER GET ME SOME...?

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

I SEE.

BUT VALUE IS NEEDED TO TRADE HERE.

THERE ARE WATER AND FRUIT...

YOUR VALUE... YOU HAVE YET TO IRU... CHANGE IT INTO MONEY.

THAT'S NOT IT?

?.....

WAS IT WHAT RIKO **SAID** THAT DECIDED MEINYA'S VALUE?

NGA-mu. THAT'S NOT IT.

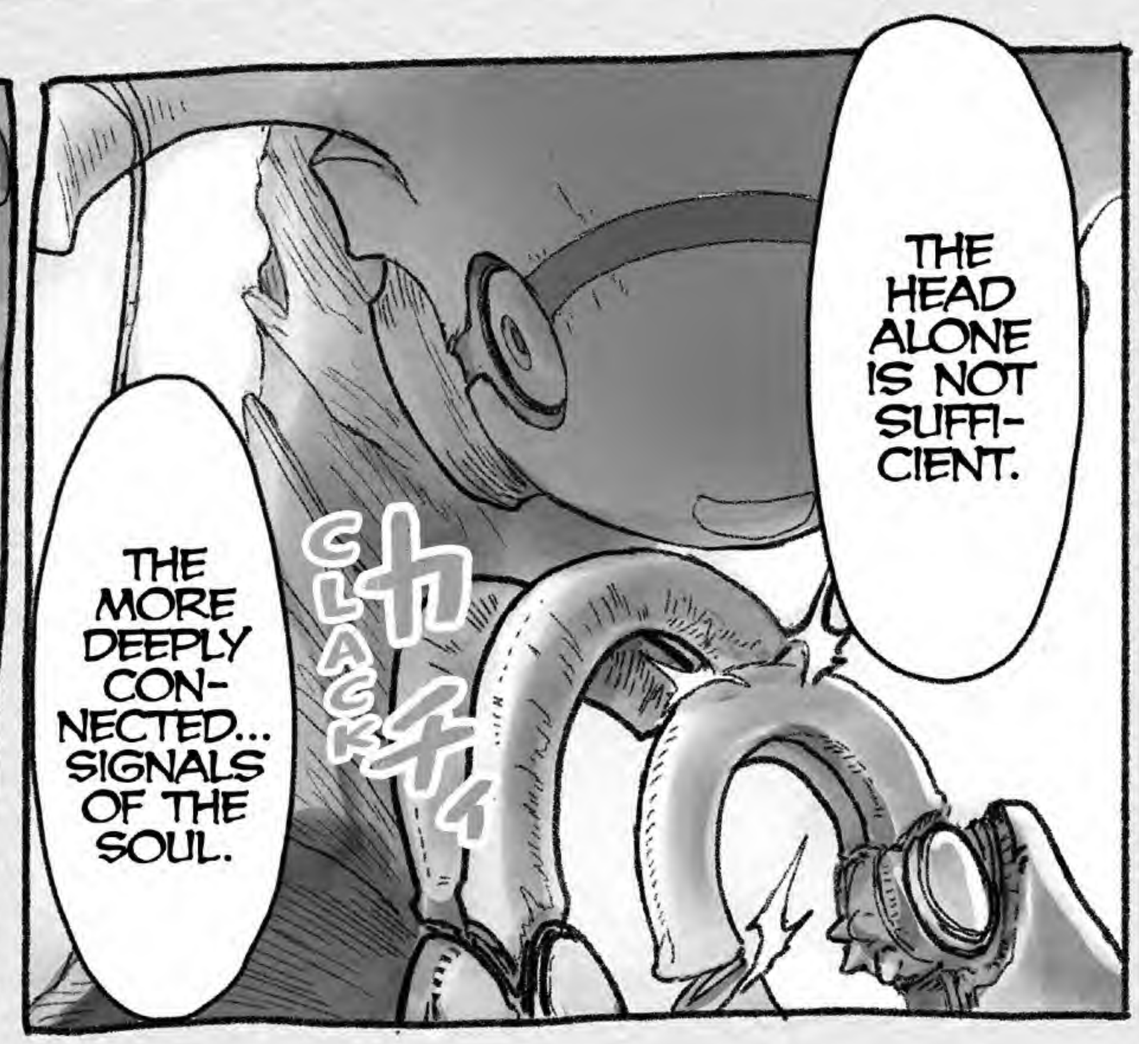
THAT "BAL-ANCING" THING.

HEY, MAJI-KAJA ....

BECAUSE IT LOOKS AT THE SIGNALS.
"SIGNALS"? YOU MEAN IN YOUR HEAD...?

KAJA SAID BEFORE, BUT...
IRU-buru... THE VILLAGE KNOWS EVERY-ONE'S DESIRES.
HOW COME IT KNOWS?

NO MATTER WHAT THE MOUTH SAYS, THE SIGNALS OF THE SOUL CAN'T BE FOOLED.
BUT AREN'T THERE PEOPLE WHO... YOU KNOW, REALLY BELIEVE THEIR OWN LIES?


THE HEAD ALONE IS NOT SUFFI-CIENT.
THE MORE DEEPLY CON-NECTED... SIGNALS OF THE SOUL.
CLACK

MI-MI-u.
WHAT IS OF VALUE TO NA-NACHI?
ME?
LET'S SEE... MITTY AND--
HADI... MITTY.

IF SOMEONE CAN FOOL THEMSELF WITH THEIR OWN WORDS, THEN THAT IS THEIR TRUTH.
IT'LL SOON BECOME A SIGNAL OF THE SOUL.

EVEN THOUGH BELAF OF THE THREE SAGES IS USING HER...

BUT, NANACHI, YOU KNOW HER WELL, HUH?

SHE SMELLS VERY GOOD. KAJA WANTS HER, TOO.

KAJA UNDER-STANDS YOUR FEELINGS.

DON'T CARE ABOUT THE REST.

YEAH, MITTY... AND THOSE GUYS, TOO.

WHAT DO YA MEAN ...?

HEY...

NOT THAT PART.

ma-EN...? THE THREE SAGES ARE THE ONES WHO MADE THIS PLACE.

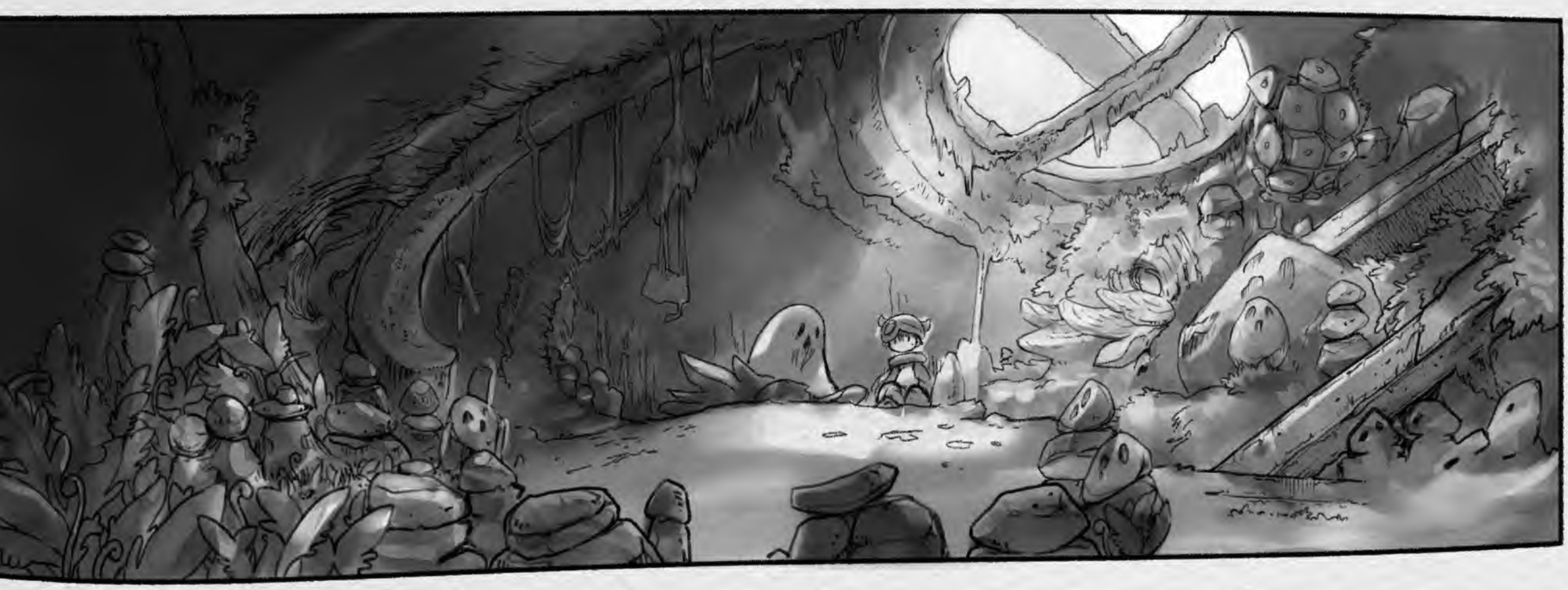
WHO DID YOU SAY WAS LEFT BEHIND?

WHAT'S THIS NOW ...?

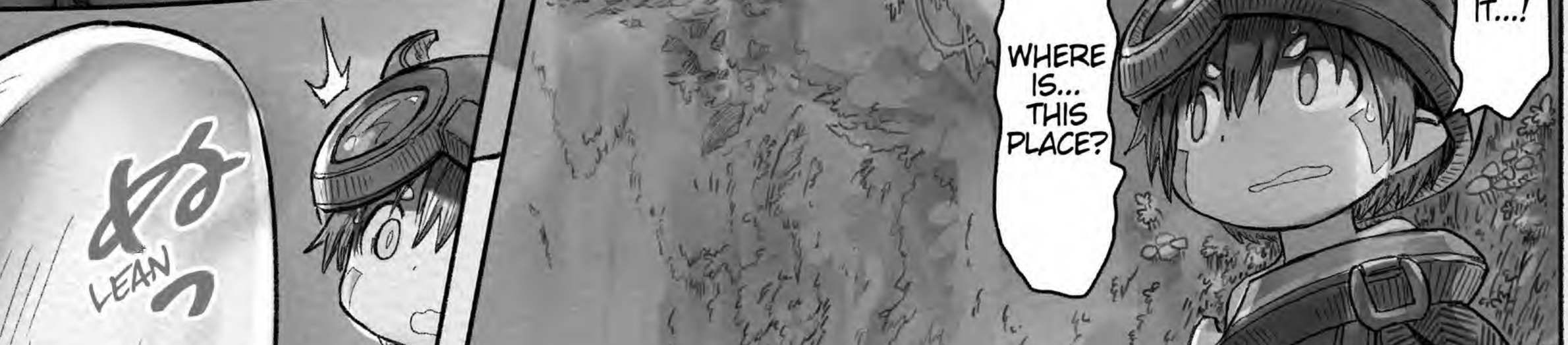
DID I HEAR YOU WRONG?

MITTY.

THAT WARM MASS OF CURSE THAT THE MASKED MAN LEFT BEHIND.



HAAH!
HAAH!


DAMN IT...!
WHERE IS... THIS PLACE?

LEAN

WHAT KIND OF RELATION-SHIP IS THERE BETWEEN YOU AND ME...?

I FEEL BAD ABOUT REPLYING TO A QUESTION WITH A QUESTION, BUT...

.....

DID YOU ALSO FORGET ABOUT THIS PLACE, SOSU ...?

WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOU?

IF YOU KNOW... THEN PLEASE TELL ME.

I WANT TO KNOW WHAT I AM.

I HAVE LOST MY MEM-ORIES OF THAT TIME.

BUT, UH...

I FEEL AS THOUGH I'VE MET YOU BEFORE...

THAT'S ALL RIGHT WITH ME.
.....
FAPUTA WILL CHECK TO SEE IF YOU'RE REALLY REG, SOSU.
THEN FAPU-TA'LL TELL YOU.
I HAVE TO MAKE SURE... THE COMM DEVICE STAYS HIDDEN...
SHOW FAPUTA THAT, TOO, SOSU.

ほす SNIFF

ほす SNIFF

H-HEY...

AREN'T YOU GOING TO ASK ME ANY-THING?

……

SKRITCH カリ

SKRITCH カリ

SKRITCH カリ

EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE FAPUTA'S... WHO WOULD...

ごくり…

D-DON'T TOUCH IT! IT'S NOT FULLY HEALED YET!
DOON
!
WHAT IS THIS WOUND, SOSU?
I CAN'T MOVE ...!
I...
ELMMGT..

SURUU
スル
MGH~?!
MMGH!!
PROD...
ぐぐ...
THROB
プッ
PRUK
ッ

!!GRNGH!!
NGH!
!!
NGHURGH!
THE TASTE ...
IS THE SAME, SOSU.
YOU ...
SAID YOU'D BRING HAKU, SOSU.

DAMN IT...

SO HOT ... WHAT DID YOU SAY ...?

HAKU ...?

HUFF!

THE HUMAN CHILD.

THE HOLLOW CHILD.

WHICH IS YOUR HAKU, SOSU?

HA-KU.

IT MEANS THE HIGHEST VALUE THING, SUSU.

MMM...

SNIFF

SNIFF

YOU ARE FAPUTA'S REG, AFTER ALL...

SHOW ME JUST IN CASE, SOSU.

WHOOA!

STOP IT!!

ばシッ

SHOVE

THAT'S THE NAME RIKO GAVE ME ON THE SURFACE!

IN THE FIRST PLACE... YOU SHOULDN'T KNOW ME AS "REG"!

I'LL BE DAMNED IF I GET FILLED WITH HOLES BEFORE I FIND OUT WHO I AM!!

QUIT MESSING AROUND!

WHAT'LL YOU DO, SOSU?
EVEN WHEN THEY DIE, YOU'LL STAY THE SAME.
PLAN ON LIVING IN...
YOU...
THE SAME TIME AS THE "HUMAN CHILD"?

EGU.
KON-bu-zo-su...
I'LL STAY WITH THEM UNTIL THE END.
.....
I'LL THINK ABOUT WHEN THE TIME COMES.
WHAT I DO AFTER IS SOME-THING ...
EGU.

THAT CLOCK TOWER ...!

I SAW IT WHEN WE CAME DOWN HERE, DIDN'T I?

WHA --?!

GOO...

DON'T ATTACK ME, OKAY?

I'M LEAVING.

.....

DAMN IT.

MY STUPID BODY... MAJOR INJURIES SEAL UP RIGHT AWAY, BUT...

O-OWW ...

SHE'LL NEVER PERISH...

FAPUTA...

AND IS THE EMBODI-MENT OF VALUE, HUH?

SHE WAS ENCHANTINGLY BEAUTIFUL, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT-- BUT...

. . . . . .

THE PAST ME...

HOW WOULD HE HAVE ANSWERED THAT QUESTION ...?

THE SAME TIME AS THE 'HUMAN CHILD'?

YOU PLAN ON LIVING IN...

EVEN IF I GET MY MEMORIES BACK...

DO TO HER...?!

WHAT DID THE PAST ME...

"SHOW ME JUST IN CASE, SOSU."

I FAILED TO ASK HER IF SHE STOLE PRUSH-KA...

OR ABOUT THE MAIL BALLOON.

COME TO THINK OF IT ...!

CAN I STAY THE WAY I AM...?

CAN I...

NO, EVEN IF IT REACHED THEM, THEY'D ONLY GET MAD AT ME.

NAT... SHIGGY...

EVERYONE...

I WONDER IF THEY'RE DOING ALL RIGHT...?

MAIL BALLOON ...

SHOULD I WRITE ABOUT MY WORRIES AND SEND ONE?